

SOCCER

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WEEKLY

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GST INCLUSIVE

RACING THROUGH THE EARLY ROUNDS

By Daniel Kuziow

Like the start of any race, so too has the start of the National Soccer League season had its bolters and its slow starters, while others have assumed a nice position in the middle of the pack.

Both Newcastle United and Perth Glory have leapt to the front of the race however due to time of printing and pending on the result of the Parramatta Power and Olympic Sharks match, could occupy that position for the entire week.

United came off a five-nil thumping of the Northern Spirit with Joel Griffiths bagging a hat-trick for the Novocastrians, while for the Glory, they came away from a match with the much rejuvenated Football Kingz with a single goal victory and now jointly head the table with United on six points.

Wollongong Wolves and Sydney United are a point behind, but to date remain

undefeated. Both Branko Culina and Ron Corry would be delighted with this week's results, with the Wolves coming away from Ballymore with a comprehensive 3-1 victory over ten-

ants, the Brisbane Strikers. Stuart Young was the hero for the South Coast boys scoring a brace and moving them into third.

For Culina's side, they wrested a point away from

South Melbourne making their first home appearance at Bob Jane Stadium. Vaughan Coveny had given the home side a 24th minute lead but only eight minutes, Croatian import Bozidar Cacic equalised that ultimately put an end to the game's scoring.

Marconi sadly sit at the bottom of the table having gained a solitary point from a possible nine. In their match last Friday against the Adelaide Force, their defeat came with what was ultimately the last kick of the game. Nick Budin became an instant hero for the Force as he snuck in behind a tiring Stallions defence to seize the three points for the South Australian side.

But in this a race of 26 rounds, one can only say, that leaders and laggards behind will come and go and it is only after the culmination of over 14 000 minutes of play will a true victor of this soccer race emerge.



Force captain Ante Kovacevic feels the grunt of a Robbie Enes challenge.



Sydney United's giant of a goalkeeper Vanja Ivesa reaches over the top of South Melbourne's Vaughan Coveny to punch the ball clear of danger.

South Agree Settlement With Tax Man

By Brendon Davis

South Melbourne have entered into a payment schedule with the Australian Tax Office to repay a significant debt accrued over the last few years.

Each of the new directors at South was served with demands by the ATO last week.

The new administration was unaware of the debt until recently. ABSW is informed that neither the finance sub-committee nor the external auditors alerted the board to the discrepancy.

Initially Souths outgoing

administration had informed members of a \$400,000 deficit. An internal audit undertaken by respected accountant Con Dandanis subsequently revealed the deficit to be considerably more than this, somewhere in excess of \$1,000,000.

Despite suggestions to the contrary, South Melbourne Soccer Club will not be entering into any form of external administration.

Club President, Peter Mitrakas told ABSW today "the board has developed a program to raise the funds necessary to both repay the Tax Office and ensure South continue as a force in the

NSL".

This included the launch of the new business coterie and numerous new sponsorships including the major sponsorship from Laiki Bank.

South Melbourne has welcomed donations from members and supporters of the club. A number of contributions were made following at last weekends Extraordinary General Meeting although further contributions are sought and encouraged.

South had a major financial windfall following their successful participation in the initial World Club Championships in Brazil where they secured

\$4,000,000 in prize money.

In excess of \$1m was used to retire debt meaning the club has lost around \$4m in 3 seasons.

The magnitude of the accrued debt and the fact it was concealed from most Directors and members has upset many.

And how the external auditors failed to identify the financial position raises further serious questions.

Now its imperative members and fans support the club. A membership drive is under-way where South seek at least 3,000 members is one way fans can support the club.

POSTECOGLOU PLEASED WITH NATIONALS

By Mark Stavroulakis

Australian coach Postecoglou was rather pleased with the standard of football played at this year's National Talent Identification Championships held in Sydney over the past week.

Twelve teams from across Australia competed in both the Under 15 and Under 16 age groups with Postecoglou keeping a close eye on potential players for his new U17 Joeys squad, who are preparing for a hopeful 2003 World Cup spot in chilly Finland next August.

"The Nationals have been good this year, I've been pretty happy with the standard of football played by all participating sides. There has been a

number of quality players during the tournament and I guess the hardest aspect for a coach is selecting the best possible one's who have been chosen to stay back after the completion of the Nationals. I have to say that the level of football has improved comparing it to last year's titles, I think this season we've seen many sides shock the usual big gun states which is a sign that football is improving across Australia."

Postecoglou and a list of selectors had been working hard all last week in monitoring players for the 1-week camp held at Parklea that started off last Monday.

A squad of 22 players were selected with eighteen young promising stars hoping to be part of the final Joeys squad come next February for the Oceania qualifiers.

NSW dominated the 22-man squad with eight players selected for the week's trial. Queensland followed up in second place with five while South Australia had four representatives from their state. Northern NSW fared with 2 spots while Western Australia, Victoria and the ACT all finished up with one-a-piece.

Two trial matches have been organized for the hopeful Joeys squad during the week as they entertain both Marconi and Parramatta Power Youth respectively.

"There has been quite a few players individually that have impressed me. It's always tough to narrow down the final decision from say the 200 hundred or so players that took part in the Nationals, selecting twenty-two from that was always going to be a tough task in anyone's case."

FULL NATIONAL LEAGUE COVERAGE

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FULL WORLD WRAP PAGES 27-31

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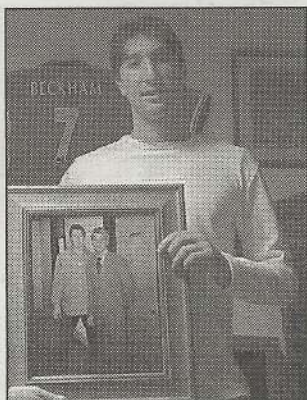
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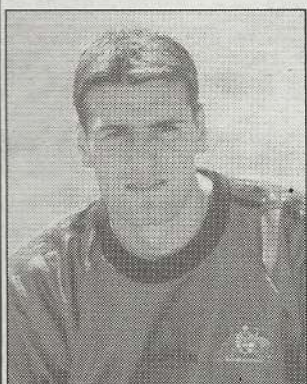
Joey Didulica: Out of the Ajax squad with injury.

Aussie Joey Didulica has become the third Ajax goalkeeper to go down with an injury, leaving Ronald Koeman with the likely prospect of having just one fit senior stopper for the weekend trip to Feyenoord.

Didulica had replaced the injured Maarten Stekelenburg but picked up an ankle injury in his side's Champions League match against Rosenborg.

He will almost certainly be unfit to play in Rotterdam, and he joins Stekelenburg (hamstring) and Bogdan Lobont (shoulder) on the injury list.

In more news on goalkeepers trying to ply their trade in the light of misfortune comes the news that Socceroo Zeljko Kalac claims he has been dropped at Perugia purely for political reasons.



Zeljko Kalac: No longer the number 1 at Italian club Perugia.

Kalac was installed as the No.1 keeper at the start of the season after Gaucci's son, Alessandro, brought him to the Serie A club from Dutch side Roda JC.

After a solid performance in his first game of the season, a 2-0 home win over Reggina, Kalac and Perugia suffered a 3-0 hiding to Scudetto favourites AC Milan at the imposing San Siro.

The following week, Gaucci signed out-of-contract Italian legend Sebastiano Rossi and instructed coach Serse Cosmi to give the former Milan hero the starting job ahead of Kalac. "We can't afford to lose games because of a goalkeeper," Gaucci was quoted on the worldgame.com. "Kalac is a shy lad and we can't risk relegation by waiting for him to settle in properly."

In an interview on Sunday's the World Game program Kalac said, "I've lost my spot because of political reasons, which happens in football, especially here in Italy."

"Everything was sweet. On the Monday, the coach said, 'we lost to AC Milan, no problem, we have to win now against Empoli. There's nothing more important for us'."

"Then the president's just turned the place upside down on Wednesday. I've never seen so many people say sorry for what's happened. No one wanted this."

"The coach pulled me in (to his office) and as soon as he looked at me, I looked at him, we started to laugh and I just said to him 'what is going on here'. And he just said, 'the most important thing for you is not to say a word'."

Spider, have you ever thought that the reason Rossi was brought in was not the political reasons you claim but because he has proven experience in the Serie A and European competitions. Instead of being bitter about the situation, why not use the experience he will bring to the club to benefit your own performance to one day take the first team spot back.

Birmingham's Stan Lazaridis earlier in the week spoke ahead of the Premier League clash between his current employer Birmingham City and his previous one, West Ham United.



Stan Lazaridis: Enjoyed his return to West Ham United.

The Australian international spent four years at Upton Park and returned for the first time since a £1.5m move to St Andrews three years ago.

He told Standard Sport: "West Ham will finish high up, there's no doubt about that, but hopefully they won't get the points tomorrow. One win can make all the difference."

"From my own time there, I know getting points at Upton Park is difficult. The atmosphere is intimidating, especially down the chicken run side, and it has always been a fortress."

Lazaridis has started Birmingham's first Premiership campaign for 18 years on the substitutes' bench, but made two goals in Wednesday's Worthington Cup win over Leyton Orient.

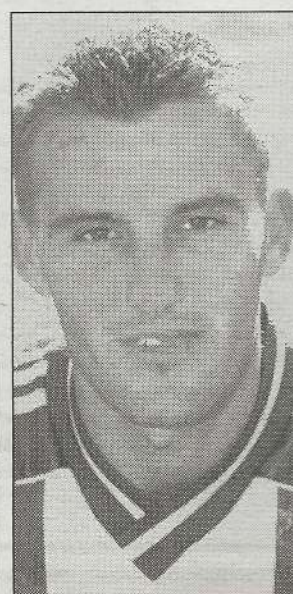
He said: "I had four years at West Ham and it was a good time for me. The club went from strength to strength, reaching the quarter-finals of the FA and League Cups, and I want to go back and thank the fans. I turned down several good offers to stay at West Ham but eventually went to Birmingham to get first-team football."

Incidentally the Blues returned from London with a two goals to one victory.

Walsall manager Colin Lee has been rocked by the news that Australian international David Zdrilic could be sidelined for up to six weeks after suffering a calf strain.

Zdrilic sustained the injury during Saturday's win at home to Sheffield Wednesday.

"He could be out for anything from two to six weeks," said Lee.



David Zdrilic: Could be sidelined for six weeks with injury.

"Obviously it's a big loss to us, he's been playing a big part in games and he has shown he can come into the side and score goals."

"At the moment, he's having intensive treatment every day. We've got a week before we play Burnley and you can often get a good response to treatment after a week."

"I'm hoping he'll be ready for the Burnley game, that's the target, but whether we get there or not, I don't know."

Millwall midfielder Tim Cahill may be out for the rest of the season with injury, but he is still a hot topic back in Australia.

For some time now, Cahill has been the subject of a bitter feud with Soccer Australia. Cahill started his international career with a five-minute display for Samoa when he was fourteen years of age, and ever since that day he has been called a Samoan International.

Now under FIFA regulations, Cahill can not don the green and gold of the Socceroos, despite having been allegedly assured by SA that the game in question would not affect his eligibility in the future.

The Sydney Morning Herald has taken a shine to this issue—that was reported in ABSW some seven months ago—with Cahill saying: "The misunderstanding of me being a 14-year-old kid and not knowing too much and being guided in the wrong way has obviously led to this. It's very disappointing for me but when you're a kid you just want to represent your country."

"It would just be nice to see someone back me up and to say 'this kid is good enough and the kid was wrongly advised by whoever' and to say 'let's do something about it'."

"Someone like a governing body like Soccer Australia is very forceful in a case like this and I think people will understand that I was only a kid and there was no parental guidance when I actually played and this should have been stopped when I got on the plane to go over there."

In news surrounding another youngster, former U17 Joey and Southampton Youth team player Darren Broxton has signed for English non-league side Winchester City.

Broxton is the latest Aussie to leave St Mary's, meaning only

youngster Jay Lucas is currently a part of the Southampton outfit.

Just a quick update on our good friend Dusan 'Darcy' Purac.

The word on Darcy's skill is now spreading with 2002 proving to be Purac's most successful yet. The soccer wizard is set to appear on television shows Totally Wild and The Big Arvo and his video Ready Set Goal is about to be released in the UK.

But more important than these are the stats that prove his success. Over 500 representative players in under 12 years of coaching have already come through the ranks of his coaching.

To further enhance these, in coming weeks Purac and selected students will feature again on Channel Seven's 'The Big Arvo' giving soccer tips to the nations youngsters. Be ready to view these features on Tues October 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th at 4pm on the Seven Network.

The progress doesn't stop there, Purac has also recently sold the distribution rights to his renowned soccer skills coaching video 'Ready Set Goal' to Quantum Leap in the UK. The video will be reviewed by the UK media during October and will be in stores as of Monday November 4th.

If both these ventures are successful, then who knows where we will next Darcy and his brand of soccer skills.



Dusan Purac: Skills coach set to star in TV shows Totally Wild and the Big Arvo.

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U/14 Sun 20th October 12.00pm U/15 Sun 20th October 1.30pm

U/17 Sun 20th October 3.00pm

All players are to present themselves at least 30min prior to commencement of trial times.

As these are Representative trials, all players are requested to present themselves accordingly.

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Channel 7 to Screen NSL Highlights

The National Soccer League is pleased to confirm the availability of an edited television highlights package of the majority of nightly 2002/2003 NSL matches from Round 3 onwards.

The three to five minute highlights packages will be available to be recorded from a television 'feed' from Channel 7 every Saturday afternoon at 3pm, Sundays at 3pm and Mondays at 3pm.

The weekly packages on the Saturday, Sunday and Monday afternoons will feature edited highlights from the previous nights NSL action of any matches played in Sydney, Wollongong, Newcastle or Melbourne.

Matches played in Perth are likely to be covered by Ch 7 Perth and edited highlights available by direct contact, subject to weekly confirmation.

Channel Seven Sydney will 'feed' the highlights package to Sydney television stations at the allotted times each weekend, with interstate or regional stations accessing the NSL footage through contact with their partner station in Sydney. All receiving TV networks are responsible for bearer bookings, if required.

Please advise Channel 7 Master Control to confirm requirement of a feed/split of the NSL highlights packages, as no 're-feeds' will be available.

In the event of any problems arising from the anticipated television feeds, please contact Ch 7 Master Control on (02) 9877 7660/7661 or 7662 - feed will be from News tape.

* (Zero1Zero production company has been contracted by the NSL to record by single camera those designated matches).

zer01zer0

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NSWSF

PREMIER YOUTH LEAGUE

2002-2003 Season

Under: 12's, 13's, 14's, 15's, 17's

SUNDAY 13th OCTOBER 2002

U12's, U13's — 9:30am / U14's, U15's, U17's — 3.30pm

FRIDAY 18th OCTOBER 2002

U12's, U13's — 5.30pm / U14's, U15's, U17's — 6.45pm

SUNDAY 20th OCTOBER 2002

U12's, U13's — 9:30am / U14's, U15's, U17's — 3.30pm

SUNDAY 27th OCTOBER 2002

U12's, U13's — 9:30am / U14's, U15's, U17's — 3.30pm

At:

O'Neil Park

Cnr Cooper Rd & Nobbs Rd YAGOONA

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

PLEASE CONTACT:

U12's: Richard — 0414 232 802

U13's: Mendo — 0401 680 372

U14's: Barry — 0408 620 565

U15's: Mark — 0411 175 188

U17's: Jay — 0407 782 590

Youth League Director

George Fernandez — 0417 481 805

Email: cubsfcl@iupco.com

'EMO' WANTS TO GET ON WITH THE JOB

By Mark Stavroulakis

With the spotlight firmly set on a hopeful move to the Premier League in January, Feyenoord and Australian international Brett Emerton has endured a tough few months with constant speculation that the ex-Olympic Sharks star was set to join a few clubs during the European off-season.

Father Michael expressed his concern towards the report that son Brett stated to English tabloid 'The News Of The World' that he would never play for Newcastle United.

"These accusations that Brett said about not wanting to play for Newcastle are 110% incorrect. Why would Brett say such a thing if at the end of the day, playing in England is what he wants to do?"

I know that Brett would love to play for a Newcastle, Leeds or Liverpool but nothing has been set yet and there are still on-going

negotiations. He just wants to concentrate on playing well for Feyenoord in the Champions League and Dutch League and then he'll take it from there", stated Mr Emerton exclusively to ABSW.

Young Brett had starred in Feyenoord's one-nil away from home win against Newcastle United and last Tuesday was also rated as the best player on the pitch during their nil-all draw against Russian side Dynamo Kiev at the De Knip Stadion.

Last season's UEFA Cup champions will be at their best in qualifying for the second round of the prestigious Champions League as they take on Kiev in chilly Russia in their next match.

The Rotterdam based club currently sits in second place, two points behind leaders Juventus. It's been one of Emerton's dreams to crack open a Semi/Grand Final finish in the Champions League and with some luck we could see an Australian playing in the final this season?

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Saturday 25th October 9.00am

UNDER 13

Saturday 12th October 10.30am

Saturday 19th October 10.30am

UNDER 15

Saturday 12th October 1.30pm

Saturday 19th October 1.30pm

UNDER 14

Saturday 12th October 12.00pm

Saturday 19th October 12.00pm

UNDER 17

Saturday 12th October 3.00pm

Saturday 19th October 3.00pm

Youth League

UNDER 14

Tuesday 15th October 6.00pm

Tuesday 22nd October 6.00pm

UNDER 17

Thursday 17th October 6.00pm

Thursday 24th October 6.00pm

UNDER 13

Monday 14th October 6.00pm

Monday 21st October 6.00pm

UNDER 15

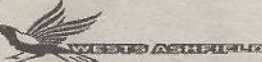
Wednesday 16th October 6.00pm

Wednesday 23rd October 6.00pm

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SUPER YOUTH LEAGUE

U/12's 20/10, 27/10 — 11am

U/13's — 6pm

U/14's — 4pm

U/15's — 2pm

U/17's — 12pm

Dates: 19/10, 26/10, 2/11

GIRLS

YOUTH LEAGUE

U/12's — 10.30am

U/14's — 10.30am

U/16's — 12.15pm

Dates: 13/10, 20/10, 27/10

WOMEN'S

SUPER LEAGUE

1st Grade and U/21's

Commencing 15th October

Tuesday and Thursday Nights from 7pm

MEN'S

STATE LEAGUE

U/19's 3pm

U/21's & 1st Grade 5pm

Dates: 9/11, 16/11, 23/11, 30/11

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- Fairfield Indoor Sports Centre Friday from 6pm to 7pm

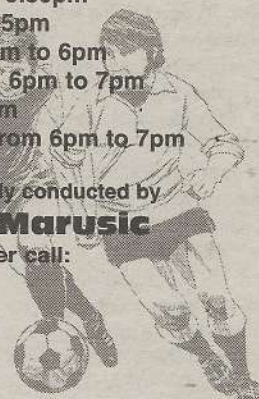
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— ALL GIRLS WELCOMED —

FRANCO Paris: From Milan To Tottenham

By Vincent Vartulli

Missing from the Australian soccer scene, Franco Parisi is back in town playing his trade for old club the Olympic Sharks this season.

Parisi first burst onto the National League scene two years ago with a two-goal debut for Olympic against the Canberra Cosmos.

After spending a few seasons Overseas, Parisi returned home telling ABSW his experiences whilst trialling and playing overseas football.

After spending eleven months at the AIS, Parisi signed for Sydney Olympic. Within a month he came on as a sub to score two goals after Olympic was down 2-1. Franco hasn't looked back since. His first season stats were 14 games with 4



Parisi shown in his AIS strip where the youngster spent eleven months developing as a player.

goals and 2 starts. Not bad for a 17 year old!

This form earned Parisi a call up to the Under 20's squad for the East Asian games, with Parisi scoring an impressive 2 goals in 4 appearances. Parisi just narrowly missed out on the World Cup squad.

From here on the ball kept rolling and suddenly things started to happen for Parisi.

Franco decided to try his luck overseas after his impressive yet short apprenticeship in the NSL.

Parisi looks back on the move overseas "a few trials came through and I felt confident to go over and give the trials a shot".

Parisi trialled for three months on the continent, eventually signing with Dutch second division outfit, Stormvogels Telstar. This was after trials at teams such as Cagliari, Monza and just narrowly missing a contract at the world class AC Milan.

Parisi looks back on his 3 weeks at Milan with great fondness. "I was trialling at Cagliari when AC Milan came along and asked me to go there for a trial, how could I resist? In the three weeks I was there I played four reserve team games, which included playing in a youth tournament for the team."

Franco worked closely for three weeks with ex-Italian international and the man tipped to be the next Milan coach Mauro Tassotti. All was going well with Parisi being apprehensive of gaining a contract as Mauro Tassotti was "continually giving me confidence and great comments". Yet unfortunately at the time Parisi did not possess an Italian passport, and after the recent false passport scandal in Italian soccer there are now laws such as minimum pay requirements and laws to such degree.

"So signing an unknown could be seen as a risk."

Nonetheless Parisi does not look back with bitterness on his time with Milan yet he looks back with great fondness. Still having all the gear Milan gave him including a Tracksuit, Bathrobe and any other item of clothing possibly needed. Parisi contemplated on the Milan experience as "The professionalism the big name stars and the fan treatment was something I had never experienced. Having lunch with Rui Costa, Maldini and Gattuso is something everyone dreams of and I got to experience it!"

Parisi quickly rectified the passport problem and moved onto Monza where he was under the watchful eye of another former Italian international Pierluigi Casiraghi.

Yet Parisi was unfortunate to suffer a crippling injury in a training game which would turn out to be an unexpected turning point in his career. Stormvogels Telstar came along. After scouting Parisi for several months and seeing the great potential in which he possessed, Telstar offered to rehabilitate him and to take him on. Parisi ended up playing half a season for Telstar playing 15 games and amassing an amazing 13 goals.

Franco recalls the great excitement in the club after his first game saying "everyone in the club was calling me the next Van Basten, it was amazing" Parisi's first goal was a bicycle kick, which made all the print media in Holland. This act of brilliance immediately attracted the interest of the top 3 in Holland - PSV Eindhoven, Ajax and Feyenoord. These three clubs are still monitoring Parisi's form.

Telstar was a great experience for Parisi as he says "they (Telstar) believed in my ability and worked closely with me improving my technique and confidence".

As the season entered its final stages Franco was inundated with offers. Parisi saying "I felt my chances to progress from

Telstar where limited and when Tottenham offered a firm contract I decided it was best to take it up".

Parisi went for a 3-day visit of the Tottenham setup. After playing a bit of football an impressed Glenn Hoddle invited Parisi back for pre-season.

Parisi trialled with Tottenham for a total of 5 weeks. With the trials beginning, Parisi was pencilled in to play trial games with the first team. Yet unfortunately injury struck Parisi again with him being ruled out for a week. Upon his return from injury Parisi missed two first team games and was sent to regain his fitness with the reserves where he played 4 games notching up 3 goals. One in which Franco describes as his "finest goal" and one which coach Colin Calderwood also commended Parisi on. Parisi had impressed, a contract was written up and ready to sign, all parties had agreed. Yet at the eleventh hour with Parisi already registered as a Tottenham player, to the youngsters amazement he and his management team, the board of directors cancelled the move. Reasons were not given.

"I was shattered, and upset to be leaving a place that was for the past 5 weeks a pleasant and accepting environment, I felt in my heart that I had done enough to win a contract. By the way the coaches and directors where talking to me they wanted to build me up to play in the Premier League. The likes of Sheringham and Ferdinand are role models today yet will leave a spot open for tomorrow". Franco says that the experience at Tottenham will never be forgotten.

"I got to meet Alessandro Nesta when he was at White Hart Lane to play a friendly, Gustavo Poyet was always joking with me, and Teddy Sheringham was a great role model for me at training always coming to me with positive comments and feedback, Glenn Hoddle is also a great



Signed and sealed, Franco's back at home with National League club the Olympic Sharks.

coach who inspires confidence in all his players."

After impressive trials at Chelsea and Portsmouth Parisi felt the need to come back home. "The season had started so it was in my best interests to come home put my head down score a few goals and work my way into the Under 20's team to play at the world cup". Parisi came home and has signed a one-year deal with Olympic making his debut against Marconi.

Franco looks back on his year overseas as an "amazing experience, which has made me a lot stronger and wiser". Franco is now determined to establish himself as a first team regular with Olympic and is hopeful to star in this years NSL.

MEDAL DOUBLE FOR ARMOUR

By Allan Crisp

White City Woodville powerhouse midfielder Bradley Armour won his second Sergio Melta Medal at a glittering awards presentation at Adelaide's Hyatt Regency on Saturday night.

The former Adelaide City player lines up with Geoff Booth as only the second player to hang the prestigious medal around his neck for a second time.

Booth won the Premier League prize with Burnside/Budapest in 1974 and claimed his double with Campbelltown/Budapest in 1977.

Armour, 30, won his first best player award with White City in 1992 and collected his latest for the same club by polling 37 votes to win from Adelaide Galaxy midfielder Aaron Westervelt (21 votes) and Raiders midfielder Rick Cerracchio (19 votes).

The Warriors head the overall medal count with 10 successes since Rab Jones took the first in 1968.

Jones was followed by Uros Zivkovic (1972), John Kamleitner (1976), Wally Bojczuk (1979), Adrian Santrac (1981), Paul Shillabeer (1985), Brian Welsh (1986), Brad Armour (1992), Michael Brooks (1996) and Brad Armour (2002).

Enfield City Falcons striker Mark Mulady won the Bob Telfer Medal as the best State League player of the season, polling 26 votes, with team mate Darren Steele and Seaford Surfers player-coach Lemmy Vatsilas finishing joint second with 22 votes.

Blue Eagles goal machine Michael Brooks won the Mitre Golden Boot award as the Premier League leading marksman with 32 goals.

Brooks was presented with his prize by legendary record holding striker Malcolm Dunbar, who netted 40 goals for Cumberland in 1943.

Grand Final winning coach Michael Petrillo won the Coach of the Year award for the Raiders.

The Referee of the Year plaudits went to Craig Zetter, while the Young Coach of the Year award was won by Paul Cetrangolo.



Bradley Armour: Winner of the 2002 Sergio Melta Medal.

TIM CAHILL INSISTS ON PLAYING FOR THE SOCCEROOS

In a titanic battle with the highest power in world football, Millwall starlet Tim Cahill remains determined to break free of the shackles tying his international future to Western Samoa and insists there is only one nation he wishes to play for - Australia.

Cahill's torment stems back to his days as a fresh-faced 14-year-old when he was asked to play for Western Samoa in a minor international tournament sanctioned by FIFA.

"The misunderstanding of me being a 14-year-old kid and not knowing too much and being guided in the wrong way has obviously led to this," Cahill said in an exclusive interview with SBS' TheWorldGame TV.

"It's very disappointing for me but when you're a kid you just want to represent your country."

Cahill's father claims that he sought advice from Soccer Australia and was assured that the tournament would not have long-term implications for his son.

"It would just be nice to see someone back me up and to say 'this kid is good enough and the kid was wrongly advised by whoever' and to say 'let's do something about it'" Cahill said.

"Someone like a governing body

like Soccer Australia is very forceful in a case like this and I think people will understand that I was only a kid and there was no parental guidance when I actually played and this should have been



One of Australia's best talents ever to leave the country, Tim Cahill hopes to represent Australia in the not to distant future.

stopped when I got on the plane to go over there.

Cahill has received considerable acclaim during his rise to fame at Millwall as the London club pushes for promotion to the Premier League.

While Aston Villa is just one of the clubs clamouring for his signa-

ture, the real battle recently was to see which nation he would play for if FIFA made an exception in his favour.

Cahill might have played in the 2002 World Cup Korea/Japan if his appeal was successful as the Republic of Ireland were keen to bring him into their pre-World Cup squad.

While Cahill's parentage would also enable him to play for Wales or Scotland, he confirmed to TWGTV that given the opportunity, Australia is the country he is desperate to play for.

"I actually spoke to Don Givens who is (Ireland) under 21s coach who tried to make me go away to a tournament," Cahill explained. "A four-team tournament with some big countries in it."

"We talked about it, I spoke to my agent and I spoke to my parents and it just wasn't the right thing."

"I just took it as a major compliment and I said to myself 'it's not who I really want to play for'. At the end of the day I really do want to play for Australia and it would be the most rewarding if I was to run out in an Australian jersey in Australia in front of my family."

His agent has consulted specialist lawyers who believe FIFA may be guilty of restraint of trade.

"FIFA have ruled that Tim can't

play for any other country apart from Western Samoa," said Cahill's agent Paul Martin. "We consider that decision to be pretty unfair."

"We've discussed the situation with some sports lawyers who feel that because Tim was 14 years of age and under the age of majority that you couldn't deem his decision to play for Samoa in that game as a binding one."

"We're also looking at other aspects of the case in terms of European law and restraint of trade because clearly Tim has the option to play for Scotland, Australia, Ireland and the argument is that he would clearly increase his value as a player and as a commodity playing for one of those nations rather than Western Samoa."

Martin is also of the belief that Soccer Australia has a lot to answer for in this case.

"Soccer Australia, according to Tim's father, indicated that it wouldn't have long-term implications on his future international career," he said.

"I think we'd like Soccer Australia to look at that. Perhaps hold their hands up and say 'we advised the family badly in the first instance' and get in touch with FIFA and the executive committee and look at the case again."



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U/14	12.30pm	to	2.15pm
U/15	2.30pm	to	4.15pm
U/17	4.30pm	to	6.15pm

TUESDAY 29th OCTOBER — 6.30pm U/12
WEDNESDAY 30th OCTOBER — 6.00pm U/14 7.30pm U/17
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AUSSIE CAPTAINS HONOURED

Seven Australian Soccer captains were honoured last week with the opening of the Captain's Bar at Aussie Stadium (formerly Sydney Football Stadium).

The naming of the bar and dining room at the Stadium acknowledges the sporting prowess and leadership of captains from three football codes, who have led their respective teams since the inception of the stadium in 1988.

Alongside representatives from Rugby League and Rugby Union, Soccer was honoured with the induction of Charlie Yankos, Paul Wade, Graham Arnold, Alex Tobin, Frank Farina, Paul Okon and Alison Forman.

Sydney Cricket & Sports Ground Trust Chairman Rodney Cavalier formally opened the bar and dining room, which is now adorned with action photographs and biographies of each inductee.



CHARLIE YANKOS
Socceroo 1983-1990
49 International Caps
31 as Captain



PAUL WADE
Socceroo 1984-1996
84 International Caps
43 as Captain



GRAHAM ARNOLD
Socceroo 1984-1997
56 International Caps
5 as Captain



ALEX TOBIN
Socceroo 1988-1999
87 International Caps
30 as Captain



FRANK FARINA
Socceroo 1984-1995
37 International Caps
1 as Captain



PAUL OKON
Socceroo 1990-2001
25 International Caps
21 as Captain



ALISON FORMAN
Matilda 1989-2002
77 International Caps
25 as Captain

BRAVEHEARTS NO MORE

By Mark Stavroulakis

The tag 'Bravehearts' was given to National League club Sydney United for its fiery courage it had in withstanding the pressures of folding during past seasons of Australia's elite competition.

To this day, Sydney United this season hold one of the best squads its hard for years with coach Branko Culina, his chargers are keen to go one better than last season's effort were the Sydneysiders finished second from the bottom.

However, the tag as long term form of identification.

'Bravehearts' has now been banished, all media personnel are now told by the Sydney United Soccer Club that they wish to have the name gone for good.

United as stated in their press release on this issue said that "Bravehearts was a temporary nickname and we do not see it



Love it or hate it, United had many fans calling them the 'Bravehearts', their efforts in trying to get back to winning ways contributed to this nickname.

Sydney United are now 'Bravehearts' no more.

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National League Round 3 Reports



	Marconi Stallions	1
	Adelaide City Force	2

By Joe Russo

It was an 89th minute goal from replacement Nick Budin that gave Adelaide City Force their victory over Marconi Stallions at Bossley Park on Friday night.

While Adelaide dominated the last half hour of the game, perhaps a draw may have been a fitting result. It was certainly a cruel way for the Stallions to lose especially considering that it was the Marconi defence that gifted Budin the ball to score.

In front of just 2,800 fans, in what in the past would have been tagged an 'Italian derby', Adelaide came and conquered. Not convincingly but nevertheless

three points are valuable no matter which way they come about.

Adelaide coach Charlie Villani, the former great midfielder for his club and now in his first season as an NSL coach, conceded that it wasn't a great game but did feel that the Force deserved to win.

"It wasn't a brilliant game but apart from a goal in the second half they (Marconi) didn't create much.

"We gave the ball away under pressure a fair bit but we fought back hard. We believe in ourselves," he said.

Marconi's coach Raul Blanco on the other hand couldn't hide his disappointment. Blanco, never one to make excuses, did admit that the absence of defender

Angelo Costanzo through injury impacted on his team.

"It looked like it was a game to be drawn but unfortunately it wasn't to be. We were in control in the first half but we lacked a bit of punch in last 30 minutes.

"We need to be streetwise in the last ten minutes. Adelaide have that and we were naïve sometimes tonight.

"Not having Costanzo in the back caused a problem for us. Angelo is like a third midfielder for us," he said.

In a scoreless first half it was Tony Perinich who hit the woodwork for Marconi and Steve Fitzsimmons couldn't follow through with the rebound.

In the 57th minute Marconi



Force's Scott Tunbridge shown closely marshalled by Stallions skipper Dominic Longo.

took the lead. A Tony Sekulic cross found Alex Brosque and the impressive youngster headed in the opening goal.

Brosque is certainly a very talented player but as a striker he will need better service from his midfielders than he received against Adelaide.

In the 72nd minute the visitors equalised. It was Michael Valkanis who picked up the pieces after Marconi goalkeeper Michael Turnbull had parried a Goran Lozanovski header.

For Valkanis it was his second goal in two games and for Adelaide it was a crucial equaliser. At this stage momentum was going Adelaide's way.

Marconi couldn't hold on and in the end gifted Budin the chance. Budin needed no second invitation and he punished the Marconi error. It was a costly mistake and for Marconi the wait for their first victory continues.

	Football Kingz	0
	Perth Glory	1

The Perth Glory came away from a difficult trip across the Tasman with a single goal victory over surprise side the Football Kingz.

The result ended the home side unbeaten start to the season, but helped to erase memories last season's 7-2 thrashing in the corresponding fixture.

Referee Con Diomis provided the most excitement of the night in a game that was ultimately decided by a lone Damian Mori goal on 58 minutes.

Diomis booked three players within 11 minute of the start and booked the fourth, Perth defender Jamie Harnwell, for a nasty foul on Patricio Almendra, on the half-hour.

Neither goal was seriously threatened in the first half. Bobby Despotovski had the best chance for the visitors but blazed over the top from the edge of the penalty area while at the other end Chris Jackson came closest when he smacked a shot on to the outside of the post.

Perth stepped up in the second half, winning a feast of midfield possession that provided the feared strike-force of Despotovski and Mori chances. And the breakthrough came just before the hour mark. Beating the offside trap, Mori gathered, swept aside a challenge from Johnny Foundoulakis and scored.

Minutes later, Mori was

denied a second by goalkeeper Michael Utting who somehow blocked and then recovered quickly to block a second shot from Brad Hassell.

Encouraged by a good defensive effort from both Utting and Mark Atkinson, who denied Mori another chance, the Kingz lifted but without seriously troubling the Perth defence. Their best chance came in the 70th minute when Andy Vlahos carved in from the right and played the ball deftly to Jackson who blasted over the top.

After thumping the Spirit in Sydney four-one during Round 2, the Kingz found it hard to hit Petkovic's back of the net with many chances going astray for the Kiwi side.

It was not to be their night and after three rounds of the NSL competition, the Kingz have only a point from their two home matches, while the Glory's win sees them move to equal top of the table.

Not a good week for New Zealand that's for sure with the Kingz losing in the soccer and the more recent Auckland Warriors going down to the Sydney City Roosters in the NRL Grand-Final capped off a bad week for the Kiwis in sport.



Perth Glory striker Damian Mori was at is usual best in giving his side three valuable points during their tricky trip to Auckland against the Kingz.

	Newcastle United	5
	Northern Spirit	0

By Panos Tagaroulas

Abelow average crowd of 5,219 at Energy Australia Stadium witnessed yet another solid home performance by Newcastle United.

The previous four encounters had produced three draws and one Northern Spirit win so United were looking to gain their first ever win against the North Sydney based team. Ian Crook fielded an unchanged line-up for the third consecutive match as his team looked to consolidate their position in the NSL's top six.

The opening ten minutes of the game saw Newcastle United dominate possession in their attacking third. Milan Blagojevic directed the majority of their play from the middle of the park. He played some long balls in behind Spirit's defence in an attempt to capitalise on the pace of Joel Griffiths.

In the 23rd minute, former Northern Spirit player Scott Thomas, made a run down the left hand side where he held off the challenge of a couple of defenders. He managed to break free before sending an inch perfect ball onto the head of Joel Griffiths who had no trouble beating Paul Henderson on the far post to score his first goal of the season.

Joel Griffiths was again on the scoresheet as he put Newcastle United 2-0 up in the 32nd minute. Esala Masi dispossessed a Northern Spirit defender and burst into the penalty area. He cut the ball back for Joel Griffiths who was left with a simple tap in to

score his and Newcastle United's second goal.

The 39th minute saw Scott Thomas in possession holding off a challenge from Simon Bell. He managed to stay on his feet despite having his shirt pulled by the Spirit defender who blocked Thomas' path into the Spirit territory.

United were awarded a free kick and Simon Bell reacted angrily pushing the referee in protest. Matthew Breeze immediately issued Bell a red card reducing Northern Spirit to ten men for the remainder of the game.

Two minutes into first half stoppage time Joel Griffiths and Peter Tsekenis performed a well worked move in their attacking third resulting in the striker picking out the run of Scott Thomas with a low cross into the area.



If it wasn't for custodian Paul Henderson, the score line could have been a lot worse for the Spirit.

Newcastle's midfielder applied the finish to a simple tap in, extending their lead to 3-0.

The 61st minute saw a scramble for possession just inside Newcastle United's half involving a couple of players from each side.

This resulted in Northern Spirit midfielder Vuko Tomasevic venting his frustration by stomping on Newcastle United's flying winger Steve Eagleton.

He was given his marching orders by referee Matthew Breeze who condemned Northern Spirit to spending the last half hour of the game with only nine men.

In the 67th minute Scott Thomas found himself in possession of the ball in the middle of the pitch. He sprayed the ball out to the wing where he found Steve Eagleton darting in the box. The ex-Parramatta player cut the ball back for Joel Griffiths to tap into the Spirit net for his hat trick.

A minute later Newcastle United won a free kick on the edge of the area. In typical South American fashion, substitute

Alex Moreira curled the ball into the top right corner. His first official touch of the night's proceedings, beating Spirit's custodian Paul Henderson.

A minute later Alex Moreira displayed another piece of South American class when he flicked the ball into the path of Esala Masi. Paul Henderson was on hand again saving his teammates further embarrassment as he beat the Fijian international to the ball.

United handed out Northern Spirit's second heavy defeat in a row as they ran out 5-0 victors. Only Paul Henderson prevented a slaughter not seen since the days of Mooroolbark being in the NSL.



National League Round 3 Reports



South Melbourne

1



Sydney United

1

By Alan Clark

South Melbourne and Sydney United played an entertaining one-one draw at Bob Jane Stadium last Sunday evening.

Kiwi international Vaughan Coveny opened the scoring for South just after the mid-point of the first half, only to see Sydney United's defensive trio of Paul Bilokapic, Damon Collina, and Bozidar Cacic combine at the other end of the ground to bundle home from a free-kick within ten minutes.

"We were after three points today," said home-debut coach Danny Wright after the game. "I'm disappointed not to get that. It's

a hollow point for me."

"It was a combination of South being good and us being terrible (in the first half)", said Sydney United coach Branko Culina. "At half-time we changed completely and to the players' credit we gave South a run in the second half."

It was a game which deserved to be adorned with more goals, such was the endeavour of both sides in a fast-moving and open contest, but the scoring had ended before the break.

Vince Lia had been employed in a wide forward role by Wright and it proved to be a successful assignment. Lia wriggled clear of Cacic a number of times during the first period, and it was as a consequence of one such movement South

scored. Lia had been first to his feet as both he and Cacic slid in for a ball played to the wing, and raced forward to the bye-line.

Coveny had sped in support about ten metres out at the near post, and Lia's whipped cross was perfectly flighted for Coveny's header to whistle past giant goalkeeper Vanja Ivesa.

But the lead was short-lived, and Sydney United grabbed an equaliser in circumstances that will have the South brains-trust examining the tape in the game's post-mortem. Steve Iosifidis had conceded a free-kick wide on the right, bringing down Brendan Santalab at bye-line, and referee Perry Mur awarded a free-kick near the corner-flag.

The free was floated over

the far-post where Collina rose to head downwards. South goalkeeper Dean Anastasiadis blocked the attempt which then fell to Bilokapic and Cacic. Cacic was first to react and bundled the ball over the line from close-range.

The three goals South has conceded this campaign have been from set-pieces in similar positions to this, and clearly frustrates Wright. "I'm pulling my hair out about the defensive lapses that we have (from) set-pieces," he said. "It took the stuffing out of us there for a little while. We had the momentum, and (the equaliser) came at the wrong time of the game."

But Wright will be examining the tape so carry home the message that better outcomes must be achieved. "I'll have a look at it again, and we'll start to point fingers. (Such) a goal is a series of mistakes."

Sydney United changed



South Melbourne's Kiwi international Vaughan Coveny scored South Melbourne's first ever goal in season 2002.

the formation and the personnel at the break, bringing on Mark Rudan and Mile

Jedinak in an attempt to cut down the space available to South. The restructure worked, although it left Sydney United's replacement stocks bare and unable to cope with second-half injuries to Gabriel Mendez and Cacic. United was relying on nine fit players at the end, but even so was good enough to snuff out the chances that fell South's way in the closing stages of the game, fashioning a few of its own that stretched the pressing South defence as it too searched out the winning goal.

South's new striker pairing of Coveny and Michael Baird was to prove a challenge for Sydney United throughout, with Baird espe-

cially showing his confidence when facing defenders. During the first half, this pair conjured a number of attempts. As the combination gets a chance to gell in the coming weeks, these two will prove a handful for the opposition. Baird looks to have a number of tricks in his repertoire which he can draw upon to get by his man.

Wright was able to see the potential of his side despite the disappointment of the result. "The big positives that came out for us today were Michael Baird and Vince Lia. (Lia) was a revelation on the wing, and (Baird) looked the goods and worked well with Vaughan (Coveny)."



Brisbane Strikers

1



Wollongong Wolves

3

By Glenn Davis

Two losses has coach John Kosmina pondering the plight of Brisbane Strikers' abysmal home record after going down 3-1 to Wollongong Wolves at Ballymore on Saturday.

Kosmina was left stumped as to why the Strikers, which lost 2-1 to Northern Spirit in the opening round, has failed in its endeavours to maintain the Ballymore fortress tradition.

"I can't put my finger on it but maybe they're a little too relaxed at home and aren't playing with greater intensity," Kosmina said.

"There's a lack of urgency. We had enough chances to win the game ourselves but you can't give away a three goal lead like that."

"They weren't switched on and intense enough."

"This league is a sprint with only 24 games and we've got to get runs on the board."

Kosmina isn't panicking but is likely to make at least two changes for the Strikers' away clash against Olympic Sharks.

Midfield dynamo Matt Mackay and national league rookie Anthony Roche are favourites to earn a starting place against The Sharks if Kosmina wields the axe.

McKay, a busy midfielder, looked sharp and brought a new dimension to the Strikers when he replaced a cumbersome John Carbone at half-time while Roche impressed Kosmina when he replaced striker Kris Trajanovski eight minutes after the interval.

"Matt McKay is a definite option for next game. He makes things happen and I thought Roche also did extremely well putting himself about," Kosmina said.

The Wolves looked the dominant side in the first half and deserved its 3-0 lead at half-time although Kosmina felt the Strikers should have reduced the deficit to one at the interval.

The Strikers, who were fifth on the table after a 4-3 away win over Perth Glory last week, conceded two goals in the first 15 minutes from striker Stuart Young.

Young got the visitors off to a dream start in the seventh minute when, striker Norm

Sean Babic gave the Wolves an unassailable 3-nil lead seven minutes from the interval drawing keeper Jason Kearton off his line before slotting home a tightly angled shot.

Wolves coach Ron Corry knew the Strikers had to



Wolves young gun Naum Sekulovski played a pivotal role in his side's three-one away win to the Brisbane Strikers.

Sekulovski left Strikers' former Soccerroo defender Steve Laybutt flat footed near the byline before laying back for Young to sidefoot home from close range.

Young stunned the poor Ballymore crowd of 2,056 nine minutes later glancing a header off a corner from Dustin Wells through a congested goalmouth for a shock 2-0 lead.

The Strikers had two chances of their own to open their account in the first half with Laybutt missing with an early header while striker Kris Trajanovski raced clear after receiving a flick-on from Fernando Rech but struck his shot just wide of the upright passed the outstretched hand of Wolves keeper Andrew Crews.

attack after the break but despite a glut of possession the Strikers failed to penetrate the tight Wolves defence until seven minutes from the finish when substitute Josh Rose found a heavily marked Fernando Rech in the box where the Brazilian managed to toe-poke his shot past keeper Andrew Crews.

"I knew they had to come at us after the break and they didn't give us much chance," Corry said.

"I was wrapped without performance especially from Sean Babic and Norm Sekulovski and we played very well defensively."

The Wolves victory stretched its unbeaten run against the Strikers to seven matches.

**BYE:
Melbourne Knights**



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LADIES

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Wednesday 9/16/23 October 2002

U/12, U/14, U/16 6.00pm-7.30pm

WSL 1st Grade, U/19 7.00pm-9.00pm

Contact Caroline Staples 0411 893 248

MALE

GEORGE KENDALE RESERVE
Trumble Avenue, Ermington

Association Reps

Under 11 14/17 October

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Under 13's 6.00pm-8.00pm 14/17 October

Under 14's 6.00pm-8.00pm 15/18 October

Under 15's 6.00pm-8.00pm 15/18 October

Under 17's 6.00pm-7.00pm 15/18 October

Contact Michael Briggs 0412 009 986

Sutherland Shire

Soccer Football Club Inc.



Premier Youth/Cadet League Season 2003

TRIALS

Commencing October 14

Grade	Day	Time	Day	Time
Grade 12	Mondays	6pm	Saturdays	8.30am
Grade 13	Tuesdays	6pm	Saturdays	10.30am
Grade 14	Wednesdays	6pm	Saturdays	12.30pm
Grade 15	Thursdays	6pm	Saturdays	2.30pm
Grade 17	Fridays	6pm	Saturdays	4.30pm

All trials at Seymour Shaw Park, The Boulevard, Miranda

COACHES

Coaches applications for the above teams are invited, addressed to the Convenor, PO Box 583 Gympie 2227, by October 4.

Earlier applications are encouraged.

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www.sutherlandsoccer.com.au



Queensland Lions Soccer Club

Phone: (07) 3271 3636 • Fax: (07) 3271 3804

www.qldlions.com

133 Pine Rd, RICHLANDS QLD 4077



Season In Review By Glenn Davis

QUEENSLAND LIONS

1 Set a new benchmark in the premier league, which will take some time to equal after going unbeaten throughout 22 rounds of fixtures, plus semi-finals and the Queensland Cup knockout.

Won the Championship by a record 11 points and went on to complete the treble of the premiership, grand final and Qld Cup for the second time in 11 years.

It was always going to be Lions years after the club assembled a massive squad in the off-season in its bid to enter national league.

Has outgrown the domestic competition and is ready for the next step.



Miron Bleiberg

GOLD COAST

2 Yet again showed they were one of the better teams in the competition and could mix it with Lions on their day.

Have a great blend of youth and experience but too often relied on the scoring ability of Adem Poric. Overall a great season for the Gold Coast but it must have been disappointed not to make the grand final.

As coach Ken Lindsay said, it was a year of achieving nothing except making the finals.



Adem Poric

BRISBANE CITY

3 In racing terms Brisbane City failed to stay the distance after at one stage looking the only threat to Qld Lions.

Had their chances throughout the season to pressure Lions for the trophy but slipped up at crucial times.

Coach Frank Pimblett never liked losing as a player in his national league days and would count this season as a loss.

Only finished three points off Gold Coast but has the potential to do better next season.



Frank Pimblett

TARINGA ROVERS

4 A part from Lions was the success story of the season making it to the grand final. Season started badly with numerous injuries and at one stage looked relegation candidates.

However, a team was moulded from unknowns who lived up to the adage of a champion team will always beat a team of champions.

Virtually went into the grand final with a reserve side after stringing nine wins on end.

The club's decision to cut costs at all levels paid off handsomely in the end and have become a model for other clubs without national league aspirations to follow.



John Ogden

IPSWICH KNIGHTS

5 Although the Knights missed out on the finals, this season must go down as a successful one for Ipswich under the leadership of coach Andy Ogden.

Like many clubs had to battle with injuries but maintained the club's tradition of being one of the hardest and physical sides in the competition.

Has some quality players such as Queensland striker Peter Hinks and the future looks bright if they club can hold onto its best players.



Peter Hinks

THE GAP

6 Tipped to be certain of relegation before a midseason surge lifted the club from being in danger of the drop to an outside chance of making the finals.

Biggest advantage was playing on their small field at home, which regularly earned them points throughout the season.

A team of relatively unknowns tinged with the national league experience of former Brisbane Strikers and Kiwi midfielder Alun Evans. Has the capacity to become a premier league force in their region.

WYNNUM

7 Looked a strong chance for the finals early in the season before hitting a form slump, which it never really got out of.

Never in danger of relegation at any time but overall it was a disappointing season. What happened will be left to the club to decide.

Started the season with a bang winning three of its first four games but finished with a whimper with an overall eight wins and three draws for a pass mark to finish seventh, six points from the finals place.

NORTH STAR

8 Promoted to premier league after winning first division and surprised most with their performance to be in the finals race.

Will only gain from the experience and will return to being one of the league's major forces if the club can strength its depth in the off-season. North Star has a good mixture of experience and youth and will only get stronger.

The experience North Star's youngsters gained this year will be invaluable as father time catches up with some of its experienced players at the back who may not be around next year. Overall a great year from one of Brisbane's former glamour clubs of the 80's and 90's.



Bobby Hamilton

TOOWOOMBA

9 Promises so much for an untapped area but yet to deliver. Has escaped relegation by the thinnest of margins in recent years and again managed to stay up.

The club is never an easy team to beat especially at home and has some potent strike power.

Visiting teams despise the trip up the range but to finish ninth doesn't augur well for the future.

Coach: Peter Broadfoot. Should feel relatively pleased with his year considering the player quality at the club. Started the season without a win in the first five games and after 20 games had just three wins and seven draws. Gave the club another year in the top division but whether it's the last remains to be seen.

ROCHEDALE ROVERS

10 Suffered a huge player drain in the off-season and looked certain to be relegated until late in the season.

A very young side, which did it tough throughout the year but performances on the park were often better than the results it achieved.

Expect a better finish next season.

Coach: To some Keiran Cooper was lucky to hold his job after the former Irishman's side started relegation in the face until the death. But Cooper's determination has to be admired and club morale eventually won the day.

Without doubt Cooper had one of the youngest sides to work with and in the end they miraculously managed to stay up. A good side on their day and consistency will come with experience.

EASTS

11 An unfortunate year for a club only back in premier league the last two seasons.

Former Socceroo Col Bennett was retained as coach this year after taking over midway through the previous season.

Looked like being finals contender midseason before hitting a costly slump.

Got the drop after finishing second last and losing the play-off battle with first division club Souths.

Coach: They don't come more experienced than Col Bennett but not even he could save the club from relegation. As a defender, Bennett's side was always hard to beat but he needed a regular scorer to put away the numerous chances they created. Bennett may remain with Easts in first division next season but he doesn't envisage the club staying there long.

MT GRAVATT

12 A year to forget after miraculously escaping relegation last year in the last game.

Unfortunately their time was up well before the season finished and are headed for first division.

The Hawks were like several other clubs who suffered an injury crisis during the year but too often the players failed to show the fighting spirit displayed by their counterparts.

Coach: Jarrod Austin. After coaching reserve grade the previous year Austin knew what he was in for when he was appointed coach this season. Had a difficult first season at premier level but showed he was a willing learner and will improve. A top striker in his playing days, Austin was often critical of his side's lack of discipline and will to win.

VICTORIAN CHRONICLES — By Brendon Davis

Coveny Off With the All-Whites

South are about to temporarily lose the services of their only recognised striker — to international duties.

Kiwi, Vaughan Coveny leaves Australia on Monday to join the New Zealand Confederations Cup squad for their 10-day tour, which involves matches against Estonia and the highly rated Poland.

Despite only playing one game to date, the Lakeside Club is struggling with so many of their leading players being unavailable, namely Paul Trimboli (ankle), Steve Panopolous (groin) and Coveny (international duties). And Zelko Sosa can't be considered as Hajduk Split are refusing to release him while Billy Damianos remains unavailable as has still lacks match preparation, although Danny Wright may be forced to call him up earlier than expected.

Where Are the People?

Two rounds into the NSL season with attendances already a topic of conversation and concern.

Only 3,000 Victorians have seen an NSL match, although the decision not to play a Victorian game on the AFL grand final weekend last week was probably prudent.

But unless you are a hard core NSL fan you probably wouldn't know the season has started. Certainly the mainstream media have ignored the NSL.

But our two Victorian teams must share some blame. Neither club did much pre-season promotional work with the little undertaken being the same old unexciting stuff.

Even the respective clubs Internet sites offer little inspiration. Neither provided advance details of pre-season friendlies with the South site failing to provide any results or details of last weeks game against the Victorian team

DE JESUS SIGNS WITH THE DEVILS

By Graham Cooke

Melbourne Knights midfielder Ivo de Jesus has turned his back on the National Soccer League because of instability in the competition.

Instead he will play the 2002-03 season with Belconnen Blue Devils in the NSW Premier League. Delighted Blue Devils officials called a press conference to announce the signing, the biggest in the two-year history of the club in the competition. President Alan Jackson said: "We have gained a very talented player."

De Jesus revealed he had been fielding calls from NSL clubs up to 24 hours before the press conference. "But I am 26, I am getting married next April, and what I need above all at this stage of my career is stability," he said.

"People will say that I am here because my fiancé is a Canberra girl and that's part of it, but let me tell you that if I didn't think Belconnen was a stable club I wouldn't consider it."

"The fact is there are clubs in the NSW League — Belconnen, Blacktown and Melita to name three — who are more stable and better run than many NSL teams. At least they know how to keep to a budget."

De Jesus, who has seen two NSL clubs fold under him at Carlton and the Canberra Cosmos, said he had been reasonably happy with his last season at the Knights. "We reached the semi-finals, the only negative thing from my point of view is that the goals did not come," he said.

"I haven't lost my ambition...there are still thoughts of returning to the NSL and even playing overseas, but at the moment Canberra is right for me."

"It means going back to part-time soccer, training at night and getting a job during the day, but I have a strong sales background and I believe I will find something that allows me to give my best for the Blue Devils."

(which South won 5-0) while the Knights effort for the week was restricted to two stale newspaper articles.

Hopefully this will improve speedily.

GUEST INTERNATIONAL AT KNIGHTS?

ABSW offer some exciting news from Sommers Street — a big name guest player which the Knights will announce shortly.

The Peter Beardsley experience was an outstanding success for the Knights with the stadium attendance record broken in the derby with South Melbourne, a match attended by over 12,000 fans with the kick off delayed by 20 minutes given problems admitting the unusually large crowd into the packed stadium.

This big name guest will fuel to the debate over the acceptability of international guests in the NSL.

You'll have to keep your eye on ABSW over the next few weeks to find out details.

2003 — 50 Years of Knights

2003 will be the 50th anniversary for this great club. A sub committee has been formed to prepare appropriate events to commemorate this outstanding milestone.

One certain event will be the "best of" team. While one of the strikers positions is taken most of the other selections will be the subject of debate through the summer. ABSW will provide details on the scheduled events as soon as they are available.

Brondolino Lost

Victorian SA board member Joe Brondolino is unable to renominate for a position on the SA Board when his term expires on October 26th.

Brondolino's spent much of the last month criticising Ian Knop and subsequently calling for his resignation.

But it's the controversial Brondolino that's now looking for another pastime as Soccer Australia's circular for its annual general meeting notifies stakeholders that Brondolino's term has expired with him being ineligible to stand for re-election under company article 46A (a), which states that a director cannot renominate after serving four years on the board.

Several former directors such as David Hill, Basil Scarsella, Tony Labbozzetta and Greg Woods have previously ignored this rule.

But with an international focus on corporate governance its pleasing to see SA finally start enforcing its own articles.

Manny Galanos of the VSF, who is regarded as a Brondolino ally has suggested a political motive but no one can question the need for SA or any corporate entity to respect and enforce its memorandum and articles. And attempts by Mr Brondolino to portray this as a conservative political vendetta reflect poorly on him and his supporters.

South Match Changes

Next weeks game between South Melbourne and Northern Spirit has been rescheduled to Saturday 12 October rather than Friday October 11.

Rescheduling the match at

such short notice has infuriated some Victorians who had booked airline tickets for the popular trip to North Sydney. Some fans have inflexible tickets which are now valueless.

And Souths match against Wollongong Wolves on October 26 has been moved to Wade Park in Orange.

Finally Souths Round 23 clash with Marconi Stallions is now scheduled for Friday 21st February at Marconi.

VSF Lays 18 Charges on Preston

The Victorian Soccer Federation has charged the Preston Lions with 18 charges in the aftermath to the crowd riot at the Tynan-Eyre Cup final against South Melbourne at Bob Jane Stadium on August 15.

The match was abandoned at halftime with South leading 5-0 after a pitch invasion by Preston fans.

Charges laid include: **FAILING** to control spectators.

IGNITING and throwing flares after Preston conceded the third and fourth goals.

THROWING bottles, missiles and stones at opposition supporters and police.

PROVOKING South Melbourne supporters with ethnic flags bearing the disputed Macedonian symbol.

A **MOB** aggressively making its way from the southern end of Bob Jane Stadium to

confront South Melbourne supporters behind the goal at the other end of the ground.

FAILING to respond to police and security instructions.

THROWING stones and bottles and physically attacking police, security, and opposition supporters.

USING abusive and threatening language and provocative gestures.

DAMAGING advertising signs, stadium seating and perimeter fencing.

THROWING stones at the stadium's corporate facilities.

THREATENING match officials.

The most serious charge is that of bringing the game into disrepute, which could result in suspension or expulsion of the Club.

The VSF made the point there were no charges against South or its supporters. South Melbourne have already announced Preston will not be permitted to play further matches at their stadium.

The charges are expected to be heard by the VSF tribunal later this month.

Preston have also been charged with several offences following crowd trouble in a VSF Premier League finals game against Altona East in August.

Assuming the VSF expel Preston it is likely the Heidelberg Warriors, who were demoted, will be readmitted to the VPL for next season.

Remember The Name, Vince Lia

By Ben Moring

Seventeen-year-old Vince Lia is being touted as one for the future. The South Melbourne midfielder raced onto the NSL scene on December 16 of last year, making his debut against the Strikers and subsequently featured in 12 of South's remaining matches.

Lia has come-of-age in recent times and will be hoping to establish himself as a regular international, having already represented Australia at under-17s and under-20s level.

Though Lia is of tender age, he has dealt with the pressure of expectation well, stepping up to play alongside the more senior members of South Melbourne's playing staff.

Lia stated, "At the start I was a bit nervous playing with the older guys, but they were very good and helped the young boys a lot. My confidence grew from playing with the older guys. For the first few games it was difficult, but when I got used to the pace of the NSL I gained more confidence."

"You are never too young; if you're good enough, you're old enough. At training you have to put in 100% every time and work very hard."

Playing in the same position as South's 400-game veteran, Paul Trimboli, the young starlet has the perfect opportunity to learn from one of Australia's greatest local-based players.

"Trimboli is a great player," said Lia.

"Just the way he plays, the runs he makes, he is totally professional. I watch what he does at training with the ball and he is very hard to get the ball from."

Lia was also happy playing for new boss Danny Wright and made comment about his efforts thus far:

"Danny is a nice bloke off the field and as a coach he is well respected around the club for what he's done. The result against Newcastle didn't go our way, but we'll be right this weekend. We want to put it right to show how much work Danny has done and how hard he's worked."

The recent Festival Cup held in Adelaide

was an enormous success and gave some of our young stars exposure to world class competition.

Lia was full of praise for the two-week tournament and told ABSW about his pride of pulling on the green-and-gold jersey.

"It's the best tournament I've ever been involved in, the quality of teams involved and the opposition players were excellent. It was a good gauge to see whether you can make it overseas or not. Their standard of play was not too much different to what we have here."



Vince Lia is vast becoming one of South Melbourne's promising youngsters.

"Playing for Australia is quality, you see all the boys in the change rooms before the game, how switched on they all are. You have the proper physios and everything is so professional, you play twice as hard as you do at club level because you want to perform for your country."

Pressed upon his preference for which league he might like to play in later down the track, the young midfielder commented:

"I'd like to play in England or in Spain, because they play more attacking than they do in Italy. I had a few offers from English clubs, but you can't sign at an overseas club until you are 18. I also wanted to finish school and establish myself in the NSL first in any case."

Canterbury-Marrickville Berries & Bankstown District Amateur Soccer Association

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Where: Steel Park, Illawarra Rd., MARRICKVILLE
When: U/12's, U/13's & U/14's 6.00pm — 8.00pm
Mon 14th, 21st, 28th Oct. & 4th November
Wed 16th, 23rd, 30th Oct & 6th Nov.

When: U/15's, U/17's, U/19's & U/21's 6.00pm-8.00pm
Tues 15th, 22nd, 29th Oct. & 5th Nov.
Thurs 17th, 24th, 31st Oct. & 7th Nov.

When: 1st Grade 3.00pm — 5.00pm
Sat. 19th, 26th Oct., 2nd & 9th Nov.

ENQUIRIES:

Director of Youth League: Carlos Perestrelo
PH: 0411 743 948
Youth League Co-Ordinator: Brian Fong
PH: 0419 255 951

Northern Tigers

KDSA Rep Soccer Trials Super Youth League

— SEASON 2003 —

Dates: 13th, 20th, 27th October

Junior League	U11	9:00	— 11:00am
	U12	11:00	— 1:00pm
	U13	1:00	— 3:00pm
	U14	1:00	— 3:00pm
Youth League	U15	3:00	— 5:00pm
	U17	3:00	— 5:00pm
	U12	12:00	— 2:00pm
	U14	2:00	— 3:30pm
Girls League	U16	2:00	— 3:30pm

Venue: St Ives Village Green
Memorial Drive, St Ives
Next to St Ives Shopping Village

Rep. Convenor Ph 0438 776 501
Email: reps@kdsa.asn.au web: www.kdsa.asn.au
Wet Weather ph: 1900 957 016

WATCH THIS SPACE, RISING STARS ON THE LOOSE



By Daniela Raco

PLAYER'S NAME - ADAM PETKO

Current Team: Port Melbourne Seniors (Victorian Premier League).

Previous clubs: Melbourne Knights (from the Under 7's through to Reserves), and Green Gully.

Date of Birth: 9 July 1983.

Birth Place: Melbourne.

Nickname: "Petko"

Playing Position: Stopper.

How would you describe yourself as a player?
Physical, quick, and exciting to watch.

From what age have you been playing this great game?

Since the age of five. I played with Melbourne-Croatia Under 7's and played through to their Reserves. I then played for Green Gully in the Under 16's, then moved back to the Knights, before joining Port Melbourne.

What league do you rate as the world's best?

The English Premier League. Again, it's physical, quick, and exciting to watch.

If you could play for any team in the world, which one would it be?

Arsenal. I have grown up supporting them ever since I can remember, and ever since I've taken up soccer.

What makes soccer such a popular sport around the world?

It is the most televised sport in the world. It inspires a lot of young kids to play for their favourite club one day.

Is there a soccer player that you model your game on?

Rody Vargas. He holds himself well on the park, and he's a balanced player and comfortable on both feet. He is also the first person to talk to me when I joined the Seniors.

Most respected opponent?

Josip Kozic (Preston).

Who would you trade places with for a day?

David Beckham. I wouldn't mind sharing his life for a day. That would be every kids dream.

What are the qualities of a good coach?

A coach must have patience, perseverance, and belief. He must also be a tactician. Melbourne Knights Assistant Coach, Luciano Trani is a great example. He possesses the best qualities and attributes. He is dedicated to the team, and their interests. I probably wouldn't be playing if it wasn't for him.

Greatest soccer moment?

During my Knights days. We were playing Marconi for the Australian Youth title. With 10 minutes to go, I scored a header to put us into extra time, which gave us the win in golden goal 3-2. That's a moment I will never forget.

What is your ambition for next season?

To play in the starting eleven week-in-week-out, and score at least 3 goals for the season and



Adam Petko

make the finals.

Who is the last person you would like to be stuck in an elevator with?

Ivan Klarica (Bentleigh Seniors), because he is deadly for reasons I just can't explain.

If you could travel back in time, where would you go?

To 1997 to see Mark Viduka play for Dinamo Zagreb against Partisan Belgrade in their 5-0 victory.

What is your favorite late-nite snack?
Doritos cheese-supreme corn chips.

What is the best ingredient for a good night out?
A surprise.

Off-field pastimes?
Body-boarding, drinks with mates, and camping.

If you could have any supernatural power, what would it be?
To see through peoples clothes.

If you could choose any actor to play you in a movie, who would it be?

Adam Sandler, because he is a hopeless romantic.

Who or what inspires you?

My grandpa, because of the challenges he has faced and every time I think of him nothing seems impossible.

What animal (or thing) best describes your personality?

A gun, because I can go off at any time. That explains my temper.

Do you have any bad habits?
I chew my nails.

Do you have a favorite meal?
Thai, and mums cooking.

Favorite holiday destination?
Croatia.

How would you spend your last \$50?

Take the boys to "ONE" nightclub in Melbourne.

PLAYER'S NAME: SERGE COCKBURN

Current Team: Bellingen Vidukas, and Holiday Coast Representative District side.

Previous clubs: San Giovannese local side in Italy.

Date of Birth: 1 February 1990.

Birth Place: Bellingen, NSW.

Nickname: "Sergi Boy".

Playing Position: Left-Wing.

How would you describe yourself as a player?

An attacking midfielder with lots of energy to run up and down the wing.

From what age have you been playing this great game?

From the age of four. I followed my brother to training, and played competitively on the park from the age of five.

What league do you rate as the world's best?

The Spanish and English League, because of the skillful teams.

If you could play for any team in the world, which one would it be?

Real Madrid. My favourite player, Luis Figo plays there.

What makes soccer such a popular sport around the world?

It's fun to play and exciting to watch. We saw this with all the involvement in the World Cup.

Is there a soccer player that you model your game on?

Gabriele Batistuta, Rui, and Emmanuel Costa.

Who would you trade places with for a day?

Figo.

What are the qualities of a good coach?

To be competitive, and have experience both as a past player and coach.

Greatest soccer moment?

Playing Representative soccer. I got the ball from the half way mark, everyone thought I was going to cross from the line, but I ran past opponents and muddled the Keeper.

What is your ambition for next season?

For the team to do well and make the finals.

Who is the last person you would like to be stuck in an elevator with?

John Howard.

If you could travel back in time, where would you go?

The Northern Territory 100 years ago. I love reptiles and wish they weren't so rare.

What is your favorite late-nite snack?

Vanilla ice-cream and Milo.

Off-field pastimes?

Reptile hunting with friends, and seeing sand-stone outcrops.

If you could have any supernatural power, what would it be?

Ability to heal or fly.

If you could choose any actor to play you in a movie, who would it be?

Mike Myers.

Who or what inspires you?

A gentleman named John Weigel, Manager of the Australian Reptile Park in Somersbry, NSW. He discovers and looks after rare species of

reptiles.

What animal (or thing) best describes your personality?

A Leopard, because it's alert, energetic, and fast. It lazes around and waits.

Do you have any bad habits?

I play drums, so I have a tendency to tap everything I can get my hands on - including the cutlery at the kitchen table.

Do you have a favorite meal?

Seafood.

Favorite holiday destination?

Northern Territory.

How would you spend your last \$50?

Depends what situation I was in. Probably drumsticks or a good CD.



Serge Cockburn

PLAYER'S NAME: DAVID SCARSELLA

Current Team: Adelaide Force.

Previous clubs: South Australian Sports Institute.

Date of Birth: 12 October 1982.

Birth Place: Adelaide.

Nickname: "Scars".

Playing Position: Goalkeeper.

Representative Honours: Australian School Boys, South Australian State Teams.

How would you describe yourself as a player?

Still learning...with ambitions for the future.

From what age have you been playing this great game?

From the age of six. I started playing with Adelaide City as a junior.

What league do you rate as the world's best?

The Spanish League. They have the best players, and this is shown in their Champions League performances.

If you could play for any team in the world, which one would it be?

Real Madrid. It's the best team, in the best league.

What makes soccer such a popular sport around the world?

The rules of the game are understood in every country. It's the universal language.

Is there a soccer player that you model your game on?

On all professional goalkeepers. I also admire Mark Bosnich (on his good days).

Who would you trade places with for a day?

Ozzy Osbourne - just to have the life he lives.

What are the qualities of a good coach?

To manage each individual player.

Greatest soccer moment?

Signing for NSL side Adelaide Force.

What is your ambition for this season?

Hopefully get a chance in the first team, and take it while I get it.

Most respected opponent?

Alex Moreira, because of the personal competitions we had going, and I respect him as a striker.

Who is the last person you would like to be stuck in an elevator with?

My girlfriend, because she would cry.

If you could travel back in time, where would you go?

Get yesterday's newspaper today to save the world, and become a millionaire.

What is your favorite late-nite snack?

K-Time bars.

What is the best ingredient for a good night out?

A vodka, lemon, and lime!

Off-field pastimes?

Talking stock-market with Aurelio Vidmar.

If you could have any supernatural power, what would it be?

X-ray vision.

If you could choose any actor to play you in a movie, who would it be?

Al Pacino.

Who or what inspires you?

My mum, because she washes my clothes, cooks my dinner, and makes my bed.

What animal (or thing) best describes your personality?

\$100 note, because everyone likes it.



David Scarsella

Any embarrassing moments?

I once decked a female German skier while snow-boarding in Italy. She failed to get up.

Do you have any bad habits?

My untidiness.

Do you have a favorite meal?

Tiramisu.

Favorite holiday destination?

Rome, because it's the best City in the world.

How would you spend your last \$50?

Go to Crown (Melbourne Casino).

OFF THE CROSSBAR



By Allan Crisp

KARADZIC QUILTS BUT STAYS A BLUE EAGLE

As reported in our last edition, A Galaxy is just one of the SA Premier League clubs to turn on the ignition switch of the coaches roller coaster for next season.

Of those moving, the most unexpected recent nomad is Blue Eagles record breaking supremo Zoran Karadzic.

After an amazing nine seasons sequence when he gathered an incredible five Grand Final wins and five minor round championships with the Eagles, Karadzic will relinquish the top coaching job at the club that has been THE team of the 80s and 90s.

Karadzic has resigned as senior coach to accept the position as Blue Eagles Junior Development Manager.

Blue Eagles chairman Rep Giordano said he believes Karadzic is the ideal person to improve the junior standard within the club.

"There is a crying need for us to

produce our own champion players from within the club and Zoran (Karadzic) is just the man to achieve that," Giordano said.

"We have advertised for a new senior coach and the applications close on Friday. "After screening and interviewing we should have a decision by the following week."

Meanwhile, Karadzic is to team with current Yugoslav national youth team coach Dragan Sipka as head coaches of a unique school for young soccer players.

Primarily catering for boys and girls between the ages of 7 and 16 the academy will run for 12 months of the year with segmented age groups over five afternoons a week.

Named the "Stars Soccer Academy" it also will offer personal tuition and individually devised programs for older players.

Sipka lists among his pupils, Stankovic (Lazio), Kezman (PSV) Nadj (Oviedo) and Dzodic (Mont).

ALBY KIDDS MISSION

Adelaide Galaxy coach Alby Kidd will explore his overseas contacts as a major source to recruit players for his new club next season.

Kidd has planned an extensive overseas trip with that distinct mission in mind, but he also hopes to retain his selection of the current Galaxy squad.

During the recent Festival Cup international youth series held at Hindmarsh Stadium, Kidd was liaison officer with Glasgow Rangers.

It was then he was reunited with his former Dundee team-mate John "Bomber" Brown, who is a key

member of the Rangers coaching staff.

"I certainly will be visiting Bomber when I go to Scotland," Kidd said.

Before coming to Australia, Kidd played for Scottish clubs, Brechin City, Arbroath, Motherwell, Dundee, Falkirk and Morton.

When he left Dundee Kidd tried his hand at the indoor game in the USA before rounding off his professional career in the land of his birth.

Kidd, still fit and trim when he arrived in Adelaide, won the Foundation SA Player of the Year award (now the Melta Medal) with West Adelaide Hellas in 1989 before playing for Adelaide Croatia and

Central District Apac.

He guided Raiders to the Premier League championship in 1997, a feat equalled by Michael Petrillo in the season just finished.

Having been in charge at Playford for four seasons, Kidd said he had enjoyed his association with the club, but that one of the reasons for his decision to cut the ties was because he had found it hard to recruit new players.

"It seems that most players I spoke to don't want to travel any further north than Gepps Cross," Kidd said.

"Galaxy won the minor championship last season but missed qualifying for the grand final.

"It's a club that craves success and there's nothing wrong with that. "I see the job as a big challenge and that's what I like," Kidd said.

BROOKS TO COACH

Michael Brooks, who has turned goalscoring into an art form for the Blue Eagles over the past three seasons, is to depart the Marden Complex to accept a coaching role.

While at press time the deal was yet to be ratified, Brooks is the front runner to take the major Para Hills Knights joint player-coach job at The Paddocks.

Mario Boffa, after presiding over the four-year lifetime of infant club MetroStars, has stepped aside for State coach Mike Barnett.

Barnett will have former Adelaide City players Carlo Talladria and Steve Maxwell as his assistants, with Talladria senior assistant and Maxwell in charge of the Under 23 squad.

Well credentialed Englishman Derek Hall has succeeded Frank Pasquini at relegated Port Lion Pirates.

Meanwhile, Olympic FC is another club joining Playford Patriots, Blue Eagles and Para Hills in seeking new coaches.

\$400,000 RADIO REPRIEVE

There has been a pleasing sequel to our Radio Waves story (ABSW, September 17) which related that community station 5RTI FM 92.7 has had its licence revoked by the Australian Broadcasting Authority.

Since then, Radio Televisione Italiana has successfully bid at a Sydney auction to obtain the licence of the old 5UV frequency, 531AM for a whopping \$400,000.

An ABA spokesperson confirmed the sale was \$120,000 more than the highest price previously paid for an open narrow cast radio licence.

The good news for soccer supporters is that Rob Pepicelli and his group expect, within a month or two, to be able to resume on 531AM their Saturday morning soccer program and have pledged to continue their unrivalled direct coverage of local Premier and State League Soccer.

Strikers ready to Strike at Brisbane

It is seen as one of the toughest matches for last season's Grand Final winners, the Olympic Sharks will be in for a hard fought match against the unpredictable Brisbane Strikers side.

John Kosmina's men have already surprised last year's Minor Premiers Perth Glory by defeating them at their own den in Perth and tend to do the same job at Toyota Park.

Taking it to the opposition is the strategy Kosmina wants his players to follow, and with the attacking force of last season's ABSW player of the year Fernando Rech and the lively Kris Trajanovski, Gary Phillips' men will certainly be put to the test.

Former Olympic Sharks defender Steve Laybutt will also be at his best in putting one over against his old side.

The Sharks however do share a special style in reference to the way they attack as a squad.



Joel Porter: Olympic's attacking left midfielder.

Classed as one of the most exciting teams to watch, scoring goals has been Olympic's main priority. New recruit Joel Porter, gun-striker Ante Milicic, and Captain

Ante Juric have been the Sharks standout players so far in the National League season.

There's also been fan favourite and Japanese import Hiroyuki Ishida who has also turned it on at Toyota Park.

Known for his silky skills and his quick pace, he is also one player who currently leads the goal of the year awards with his 25-metre bomb against the hapless Stallions during the Sharks first home match of the season.

Attacking soccer will be the flavour of the night; both sides will be at their best in securing the vital three points in their bid to stake an early claim on the Championship this season.

OLYMPIC SHARKS vs BRISBANE STRIKERS



This Saturday Night
at **TOYOTA PARK**
Main Game Kick-Off 7.30pm



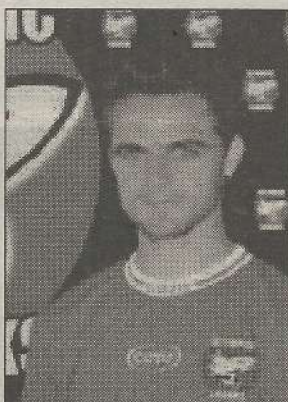
★★ See The Stars Under the Stars ★★



Gary Phillips
(Manager)



Ante Juric
(Captain)



Tommy Pondeljak



Kris Trajanovski



Fernando Rech



John Kosmina
(Manager)

The Olympic Sharks, proudly Sponsored by the **BANK OF CYPRUS.**

THE PLAYER AGENTS CLUB

By Mark Stavroulakis

In this day and age, player agents have become more evident in the soccer circles of soccer in this country.

A few years back, player agents in Australia was almost unheard of and yet today, Soccer Australia currently have as many as 23 FIFA accredited managers who take care of many young and old players in Australia either domestically or overseas.

ABSW wanted to pose a few questions to the men that look after a players future, organizing trials, telling them where and when to go and most importantly guiding them in the right direction.

Nonetheless the agent bears a lot of responsibilities especially on the rising stars who have been the focus of late with many player agents in this country.

It is no secret that Australia does boost one of the best youth developments in the world therefore making the youngsters approachable by overseas clubs.

Evident in the following report is a questionnaire whereby 7 FIFA agents (all of different companies) shared their opinions and experiences on the life a player agent undertakes.

QUESTIONS ASKED:

1) Briefly explain a bio on the company you work for and some of the players you current-

ly have on your books (local and overseas)?

2) The role of a player/manager today, briefly explain your position as an agent?

3) Do you agree with the current FIFA law outlawing players under the age of 18 to venture off in signing for overseas clubs?

4) What's the best advice you could give to a youngster who is keen to join an overseas club?

5) When's the right time for a young player to venture off to an overseas club?

6) What's the hardest aspect in the life of an agent?

7) Are managers in it for the money if so explain why?

★ Lou Sticca ★ (Tribal Sports Management Pty Ltd)

1): I operate a sports management company called Tribal Sports Management Pty Ltd (TSM) I am the chief executive!

I am also member and spokesperson of Australian Licensed Player Agents Association (ALPAA) and founder and part owner of leading international website www.tribalfutbol.com.

For your information I manage Sasho Petrovski in Viborg Denmark, Ljubo Milicevic - Captain of Australia Under 20 and Olyroos at FC Basel in Switzerland, Peter Zois - goalkeeper of NAC Breda in Holland, John Maisano and Marco Maisano at Greenock Morton FC in Scotland, Greg Uhlmann - NZ International with Boden in Sweden, Dustin Wells, Daniel Aliffi and Dave Cervinski at Wollongong, Lobo Lapsansky and Adrian Cervinski at Melbourne Knights, Alex Moreira at Newcastle, Luisa Marzotto goalkeeper for Matildas...etc...young and up and coming players like Michael Lastella - captain of South Australian Institute of Sport.

2): I am a Licensed Player Agent qualified under the rules and regulations of FIFA and supervised by Soccer Australia. My role is to assist player's further their career either in Australian soccer or overseas. AT the end of the day I will open as many doors as possible but it all gets back to the players feet doing the talking!

3): Look I see where FIFA is coming from but I think that Australia has very different issues compared to the third world countries that the rule is supposed to protect. Those of us involved in ALPAA are in the midst of preparing a submission to FIFA arguing that Australia is excluded from this rule.

4): From my experience with Carlton Soccer Club, I was very involved in the development of Vince Grella and Marco Bresciano who are now both doing well in Italy. The fact is they were picked up by overseas clubs because of their exploits with Carlton in the NSL and due to their involvement with the Young Socceroos and the Olyroos. I recommend that young Australian players work hard to obtain selection at NSL level and of course at National Team level.

5): The right time is when there is genuine interest in the player either because an overseas club has seen his

video or seen the player at an international tournament or because his agent has a good relationship with a club overseas that the player can go to and be looked at with the respect the player deserves. Clubs overseas are bombarded with trialists from all over the world so to send a young Australian player over there to fight with so many others really put the player at a disadvantage.

6): The fact is soccer is going through hard times at present. Many people who have decided to become a Licensed Player Agent have done so at probably the worst time in the last 20 years of professional soccer. However what frustrates myself and so many members of ALPAA (Australian Licensed Player Agents Association) is the number of unlicensed operators out there that are not qualified to act in this industry. They are wreaking havoc by giving the



Lou Sticca

wrong advice in many cases to unsuspecting players and their parents. Ultimately that reflects poorly on all professional Licensed Player Agents.

Apart from that, it is hard work. It involves a lot of travel, which may seem glamorous but it is far from it. Living out of a suitcase is not my idea of fun. However in my case I love soccer so it has special significance for me.

7): Who works for nothing? Is ABSW in it to sell papers and make money to pay bills? Of course Licensed Player Agents are in it to make money! But I know plenty of my colleagues that have spent thousands and thousands of dollars in getting their FIFA license, Professional Indemnity Insurance, travel costs in visiting clubs and players all over Australia and overseas.

Many of us will take years before we recoup our outlay let alone make a profit. Having said that, most Licensed Player Agents only make money once the player has made his money. In other words, most LPA's charge a percentage...therefore if the player makes money, LPA's make money...albeit perhaps 5 or 10 or 12 percent of what we negotiate on behalf of the player.

★ Chris Tanner ★ (Zenith Football Management)

1): Zenith Football Management was formed in 1996, with view to providing a "total" service to Australian footballers. In a short space of time, Zenith has grown to boast five offices worldwide, with a varied list of international clients playing on all continents. These include Nigerian international goalkeeper Emmanuel Egbo, Maltese international Matthew Galea, former Cosmos fan favourite Milton Cortes, and Young Matilda Lisa Hartley. Locally, Zenith also represents a number of NSL players including Hiroshi Miyazawa, Andrew Crews, Jon Angelucci, and Newcastle duo Scott Baillie and Steve Eagleton.

Licensed agent and company founder at 42, I've had a long history of management in the soccer industry. I've been a former NSWFS marketing manager and also breathed a last breath of hope into the now

defunct Canberra Cosmos, with innovative new sponsorship strategies, which possibly came along too late.

2): As an agent, it is important that you gain the trust and co-operation of your clients, and your market, that is players, clubs and coaches" said Tanner. "It is a much-maligned role in the soccer industry, but with the support of people like Ann Nichols (Soccer Australia) and Brendan Schwab, many of us have been able to extinguish the myths about player agents. Yes there are still some dodgy operators, agents as well as parents and club officials, but they are starting to disappear.

3): I think it is a good move by FIFA and it's part-



Chris Tanner

ners to try and bring some regulation into this area. From a marketing sense, I believe it is a useful strategy aimed at enhancing local domestic league product. It also stops powerful overseas clubs playing lotto with young talent from around the world, recruiting big numbers and ignoring lesser talented recruit's needs. I see the recent ridiculous situation of a player heading to Europe at the age of 13. Our development systems here are regarded as some of the best in the world and there is no need for a player to move at that age.

4): Get a licensed agent, and don't take advice from anyone who says you don't need one. There is one big name player overseas who was represented by a solicitor (allowable by FIFA) when negotiating his initial move overseas. The solicitor is making big money off the player, but is really only in a position to look at contracts, and does not have the knowledge of the game to advise the player on future career choices or directions.

5): When he/she is ready, and when the club is ready for the player. There are plenty of players who have gone overseas at the wrong time, to the wrong place, and they have ended up as also-rans back in the NSL or state leagues. Placement and timing is very important, and this is where a licensed agent is a necessity.

6): Dealing with dishonest and unprofessional coaches and club officials. Over time, you slowly build a customer base of reputable operators who you can trust and direct players towards. At the start of this season, one NSL club official told players that they wouldn't deal with agents, then entered into discussions himself with unlicensed people. Soccer Australia is working hard to stop this sort of activity, as is the newly formed ALPAA (agent's association)

7): We all try and make a living out of our businesses, but at Zenith the philosophy has always been that the players needs come first which, in my opinion, has been the main ingredient that has contributed to our growth.

★ Alain Barataud ★

1): I'm working for my own company and myself directly with my contact in France Germany Switzerland and recently in England with Charlton, Fulham and Arsenal because of the French connection.

In my books at the moment I have Scotty Chipperfield, Simon Bell, young Adam Hardy and Fiorese from Paris Saint Germain.

2): My role is to help the players, to take care of them, and advise them to find club sponsors to make their lives easier. They know, they can call me anytime, day or night if they have a problem.

3): The law is good to an extent, I guess its okay to go for example in young Adam Hardy's case his whole family packs up and moves overseas. However in saying that, if that wasn't the case then I would strongly suggest for the youngster to stay in Australia for a while longer.

4): To take the opportunity, but never forget that football is a game, so enjoy it. Don't always go for the money because if that's the case, then it's a wrong choice. You play, you enjoy and the rest will come as well.

5): I believe sixteen years is the best possible age to go overseas.



Alain Barataud

6): Doing the job correctly would have to be the hardest aspect of a player agent. You know that you are responsible for the person and must do everything you can to make the player succeed.

7): I know a few FIFA Agents who do this only for the money, which in my opinion is wrong. The player comes first, this must always be seen, you cannot misuse or treat players in a way that they believe that you as an agent want what's best in terms of how much profit you make at the end of the day.

THE PLAYER AGENTS CLUB

★ Andrew Bernal ★ (SFX Sports Group)

1): SFX Sports Group is an American Sports Management company. Our head office is in London with further offices in Amsterdam, Rome and Sydney.

The company boasts 5 agents who represent players such as in the UK: David Beckham, Michael Owen, Steven Gerrard & Robbie Keane.

On an Australian front SFX represent youngsters like Carl Valeri, Tim Cahill, Jay Lucas, Jaime McMaster, Shane Cansdell Sherriff, Matt Christensen, Jaime Young and James Wesolowski.

2): My role in Australia is primarily recruitment of young players with the potential to play overseas.

When in Europe, my role consists of contract



Andrew Bernal (right) shown with one of SFX's Overseas stars Dwight Yorke.

negotiations, building relationships with sports-wear companies and working as SFX's Spanish and Italian representative.

3): No I think that the law placed on young Aussie's not allowed to play for an overseas club under the age of 18 is quite harsh indeed. Australia isn't like countries in South America where passport scandals and so forth are seen almost everyday. We act accordingly to the rules, hopefully there will be a law that could exclude Australia from this FIFA ruling, it's just not fair.

4): Ability alone will not be enough to get the player through Europe. The ability to cope with different cultures, the language barriers and leaving behind family and friends all come into the equation. If you have the ability and the mental toughness, then you stand a chance.

5): Whenever the player is mentally up for it. Some kids are ready at 15 and some not until they are 18; it just differs with many youngsters.

6): I think spending the past week at Parklea would rate amongst the hardest aspect for an agent!

7): I've had 12 great years as a professional player and the game provided me with many wonderful experiences. I am motivated by the fact that I can help young Australian kids achieve their dream of playing professionally abroad and for the Socceroos, as I know first hand what this would mean to them.

Like all jobs, if you are successful then you will be rewarded accordingly.

★ Leo Karis ★ (Management & Media)

1): I am the Director of Management & Media (M&M), a sports marketing company based in Sydney in operation for 10 years.

We specialize in athlete management, commercial sponsorship and endorsements and marketing & media consultancy. Specifically in football, we specialize in contract negotiation, player transfers, representing clubs over the sourcing or sale of players. M&M has global associates in all major football nations.

Leo Karis has also consulted to Soccer Australia on public relations matters and was the architect for the formation of the Socceroos Collective Bargaining Agreement entered into between the PFA and SA in November 2001.

Some of my clients include Australian cricketers Mark Waugh and Stuart MacGill as well as footballers Mark Bosnich, Paul Okon, Jess van Stratten, Matthew Engele, Stefan Del Zio, Dominic Hudap, Adam Federici.

2): I have been a player manager for over 12 years. My role primarily is to protect the interests of my clients at all times. Most young players aspire to play overseas as some stage. It is my job, with the approval of the player and his parents to map out a career plan to achieve the "realistic goals" for the player.

The advice and guidance that I provide to the player will be pivotal in the success of the player. I alleviate all the concerns and problems facing a young player and ensure that their entire focus is to continue their development.

3): Yes I do. There are too many young boys under the age of 18 who are not prepared mentally or physically for the high pressure world of European football. Some young boys focus on world football stars and aspire to make it on that stage. It is great to dream and have goals but timing and preparation are crucial. There are however provisions for players and families to move overseas for non-football reasons and allow minors to play overseas.

4): I plead with young boys and parents be patient. I am tired of hearing that Harry Kewell, Mark Viduka, Paul Okon, Mark Schwarzer have made it and therefore it must be easy.

Let me tell you ... those boys have sacrificed and worked damn hard and it has taken them 6-8 years to become overnight successes!!! The easiest thing for me to do with my worldwide contacts is to arrange a trial for a young player at a very big club in England, Spain, Italy, Germany. The problem is, will the player be ready??

5): It really depends on the player. Some young players are mentally prepared and their style of play or position may suit them to go earlier. The key however is to play football. You can only learn so much on the training paddock. I recommend that young players align themselves with an NSL club and work hard to play first grade. We have some players now who are 16 and 17 being given opportunities in first grade and that is ideal preparation.



Leo Karis

When I met Matt Engele and Jess van Stratten I knew instantly that they had the hunger, the desire and the mental tenacity to go overseas at a young age. I facilitated moves for them to Italy with Chievo Verona and Juventus (loaned to Verona) respectively, and both are progressing and developing very well. The key is to play football wherever you go. There are a million stories of million dollar deals with Inter Milan or Ajax where boys don't play and regress as footballers.

6): Fortunately I enjoy what I do so there is no real down side to the profession. Like everything in life there are ups and downs and when a client is doing it tough, through injury or losing a match it effects me personally. However, I am good at identifying problems and finding solutions, so life is normally pretty good.

7): I know that I am in it because I can make a difference to a player's career.

The money is always a secondary consideration.

★ James Tambakis ★ (Jamico Sports Management Pty Ltd)

1): The company I work for is JAMICO SPORTS MANAGEMENT PTY LTD. I established this company in 1997, with my brother Michael, to act as consultants to elite soccer players contracted in Australia and in Europe. I am the Licensed Players' Agent and my brother is a director of the company. We currently have an Australian and Portuguese base. Just under 12 months ago, we set up an office in Lisbon.

This allows us to open doors for our players to Europe.

JSM currently represents a number of youth internationals from Australia, Greece and Portugal. In Australia, our biggest named players are Joel Porter, Lucas Pantelis and Bill Damianos. In Europe we represent Dimitris Konstantopoulos (Greek Youth International) playing for Sporting Farense and Edinho

(Portuguese), youngster being touted across Portugal as the next Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink!

JSM's objective is to sign the best young talent in Australia and provide them with the best advice and opportunities to make it in Europe at a higher level.

2): Is to represent our clients in all business dealings off the field, including player contracts and sponsorship agreements. To seek and assist players in transferring from one club to another. It requires plenty of promotion of the player via video footage, phone calls and travelling.

3): In one way, yes I agree with it, because I believe certain youth academies set up around Australia, can give our young players just as good as, chance to develop, as would many other European academies.

Also, I believe our Australian League, can give our youngsters the taste of first team football, much earlier than they would expect overseas.

On the other hand, the U18 FIFA ruling, has worked against many of our youth, because unfortunately our game is influenced by peoples' opinions, and sometimes the best youth players may not gain membership

into one of our better established academies, and the option of trying overseas has now been eliminated.

4): Find a respected and successful licensed players' agent, and sign with them!

Use your agent to give you advice on what is best for your career. Believe it or not, but there is no set answer to the question. The obvious is to play your best at all times, but then other questions are also raised and every answer should be tailor-made for each individual. This is where you can differentiate between a "good" agent and an "average" agent! Hence, your agent should be able to guide you to trial in a certain country because of your playing style and sometimes your passport status.

5): This again depends on the individual. If he is currently part of a youth academy, then I would advise him to wait until the end of the season, then get his agent to organize trials whilst he is still match fit.

Very important to arrive fit and healthy, injury free, otherwise you may risk yourself short-term, but possibly pay for it long-term. It would be appreciated by the academy director, if he was informed about the player's intentions as well.

6): To involve players' parents at all times, but not to let them put pressure on their son, for him to believe that if he doesn't make a youth national squad, or a respected academy or a European club, that he has failed. Its hard to continually give the player confidence after he may experience a temporary setback.

But its the agents responsibility to guide and comfort their clients towards their next opportunity.

Sometimes players need to go the long way round for success.

7): Its quite obvious that many are! Our clients do not have a problem with us making money, if we stick to the principles originally set out, before they signed with us. Some agents try to make as much as they can short term. Others, such as JSM, try to look long-term for themselves and their clients.

We always make sure our clients are content with all dealings. But in our WORLD GAME, there has been so much money thrown around and as years have gone by, the people who have access to the money include the CLUBS, PLAYERS and their respective AGENTS. Its part of the game and will never not exist!

★ John Grimaud ★ (Proactive Sports Management Australia)

1): Proactive Sports Management Australia headed up by John Grimaud and Vitale Ferrante is a fully owned subsidiary of Proactive Sports Group which is a public company listed on the UK AIM. The company has offices all around the world and manages some of the worlds brightest young stars.

Kenny Dalglish (Football Operations Director) has recently visited Australia to formally open the Australian office and provides a wealth of knowledge for our players travelling to the UK.

Many of the companies directors have played football at the highest level and know the steps required to become a top professional footballer.

Some players on the books: Archie Thompson, Joe Didulica, Lindsay Wilson, Joshua Kennedy, Jason Culina, Spase Dilevski, Mark Tsiorlas, Michael Theoklitos, Michael Ferrante, Clint Bolton, Jade North, Wayne Srhoj, Daniel Vasilevski, Daniel Piorkowski, Henry Fa'arodo, Serkan Oksuz, Matthew McKay, Billy Celesk.

2): As a player manager my primary role is to assist each player reach their potential and establish a rewarding career path for them. Proactive Sports Management, with its offices throughout Europe has given Australian players the opportunity to trial and play for some of Europe's top clubs where the emphasis is on player education and welfare.

As most of our players are still young, we place major importance on where they are placed.

Proactive also have a network of financial planners and accountants to advise players on establishing effective financial management.

As a management company we place an important

emphasis on communication with our players. We motivate and counsel them on all aspects of life even though the primary focus is on football. We encourage our players to work hard to achieve their goals and become the best they can.

3): The U18 law was introduced to stop the exploitation of minors and in some parts of the world the rule has been necessary. In my opinion, there are exceptions to the rule as it prevents some of our best young players from receiving the highest quality education and welfare from Europe's premier clubs. Every case should be treated individually as not all players are ready for the transition into a tough new environment.

4): BE PATIENT AND HONEST WITH YOURSELF. Some players think too far ahead of themselves



John Grimaud

when it comes to making the move overseas. Work hard to be the best player in your position for your age group in Australia.

5): The right time will be determined by factors such as the player's character, physical and technical ability and the club overseas.

Once a player is 19 years of age they are not eligible to enter the academies in Europe and we believe that establishing themselves in the NSL for a couple of seasons is an excellent grounding for young players wanting to make it in Europe. If you look at Australia's top overseas talent, most have played in the NSL and have been very successful at NSL level.

6): Working within a difficult environment here in Australia. Ideally, we would like to see a fully professional NSL, strong vibrant clubs and a National association with a bold vision for the future.

7): Our primary focus is to place Australian talent into the best leagues in Europe. If this can be achieved the business will continue to be successful in the future.

NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE 2002/03

Canberra Deakin2
Marconi Stallions Youth0

By Graham Cooke

Nathan Caldwell carved himself a little place in ACT soccer history when he scored Canberra Deakin's first goal in a national competition on Sunday, laying the foundations for a 2-0 win.

The big youngster from Cooma got it just right with his header directed down and past Marconi Mustangs' goalkeeper Andrew Karabetsos in the seventh minute of the National Youth League game at Hawker Oval – and it was a strike which brought relief to his coach, Vlado Horvat.

Horvat said afterwards he had given himself three games to get the competition newcomers off the

mark – and that target had looked somewhat shaky after the opening-round 6-0 thrashing by Sydney United followed by the narrow loss on a penalty away to Northern Spirit.

"It was very important for us to get something out of this game," he said. "We have shown we can be competitive at this level and I think the players will have more confidence now."

It was probably lucky that Caldwell caught Karabetsos early, because the Marconi goalkeeper looked increasingly unbeatable as the game wore on. Certainly Deakin assisted him with some dreadful off-target shooting, but there were also on-goal efforts that he dealt with magnificently.

Karabetsos did his best to spoil

Carl Pideski's afternoon, first bringing off a fine save from Paul Ivanic after Pideski had put him through, then getting his fingertips to a shot from the lively midfielder.

He could do nothing with Deakin's second – a 67th minute penalty after Pideski had been brought down by Roy Stivala – but captain Michael Spaleta almost let him off the hook with a shot that smashed against the base of the upright and, to the relief of the home supporters, deflected into the net.

Mustangs coach Doug Utjesenovic was not making any excuses for his team afterwards. "They are very young, but that is no reason for them not to put the effort in," he said.

"They still think like kids but in this competition you have to grow up fast. They were immature and Canberra were the better side

because they wanted to win more than we did."

The only cloud on Horvat's horizon was an injury to Ivanic in the last minute of the first half. The striker, one of the more experienced players the coach has selected to help his youngsters through the season, took no further part in the game.

"We're not sure what is wrong, we will just have to hope it's not serious," he said.

Canberra Deakin: Vella, Borg, Ison, La Butte, Rezo, Munoz, Caldwell, Spaleta, Pideski (Cerdacid 67), Ivanic (Caputo 45), Selby (Harris 55).

Marconi Stallions: Karabetsos, Canak, Jansic, De Marco (Kontos 33), Duffell, Kabbara, Miranda (Varas 82), Rossi, Stivala (Volpato 70), Somogyi, Papadopoulos.

Referee: David Wiebe.

Crowd: 103.

NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE 2002-03 NORTHERN DIVISION - RESULTS RD 2

	P	W	D	B	L	F	A	Pts
Parramatta Power Youth	2	1	1	0	0	8	2	4
Olympic Sharks Youth	2	1	1	0	0	1	0	4
Sydney United Youth	2	1	0	0	1	7	2	3
Newcastle United Youth	1	1	0	0	0	2	1	3
QAS	1	1	0	0	0	2	1	3
Marconi Stallions Youth	2	1	0	0	1	2	2	3
Northern Spirit Youth	2	1	0	0	1	2	2	3
AIS	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1
Wollongong Wolves Youth	2	0	1	0	1	3	4	1
ACTAS	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Canberra Deakin	2	0	0	0	2	0	7	0
Marconi Stallions Colts	1	0	0	0	1	0	6	0

**** Due to Public Holiday Soccer Australia were unable to provide up-to-date results. Rest assured all stats will be revised next week.**

SOUTHERN DIVISION

Round 4

VSF Dev. Squad	0	Thomastown Devils SC	3
(Match Forfeit)			
Whittlesea Stallions SC	2	South Melbourne SC	2
Melbourne Knights Youth SC	6	Preston Lions SC	0
Heidelberg United SC	0	Essendon Royals SC1	
Bulleen Zebras S v Melbourne Knights Academy SC - Postponed			

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
1. Melbourne Knights	4	4	0	0	13	1	12
2. South Melbourne SC	3	2	1	0	11	4	7
3. Whittlesea Stallions SC	3	2	1	0	6	3	7
4. Essendon Royals SC	3	2	0	1	5	2	6
5. Thomastown Devils SC	3	1	1	1	5	3	4
6. Bulleen Zebras SC	3	1	1	1	7	8	4
7. Knights Academy SC	2	1	0	1	3	4	3
8. Preston Lions SC	4	1	0	3	5	13	3
9. Heidelberg United SC	3	0	0	3	0	5	0
10. VSF Development Squad	4	0	0	4	0	12	0

Soccer Woman

BY JANENE MAR

NEW WNSL SEASON KICKS OFF

The WNSL is about to kick start its opening season with this year's competition primmed as being its best yet.

Established in 1996/97, the league continues to provide a major platform for national squads selection.

The 2002/03 season is as significant as ever, with the Matildas to contest the Women's World Cup Qualifiers this coming April then hopefully the World Cup itself in China, September/October 2003.

Of course, for the six WNSL teams there is also the fierce interstate rivalry and the battle for the WNSL Championship title. The same six perennial teams –

WNSL 2002/03 Round One FIXTURES:

Sat 12 October

Victoria Vision v Adelaide Sensation

1.00pm

Kingston Heath Sports Complex, Melbourne

Sun 13 October

Canberra Eclipse v Northern NSW Pride

12.00noon

West Belconnen Leagues Club, Canberra

Sun 13 October

NSW Sapphires v Queensland Sting

4.00pm

Valentine Sports Park, Sydney

Adelaide Sensation, Canberra Eclipse, NSW Sapphires, Northern NSW Pride, Queensland Sting, and Victoria Vision – line up again for this 2002/03 season.

Ten rounds will be contested, with the title to be decided in a one-off Grand Final scheduled for 14 December.

A double-round will be contested 8-10 November, all six teams coming together in Sydney with one round played on the Friday, and the second on Sunday.

The season commences earlier than usual and will be completed before Christmas this time around, leaving the early part of the new year clear for the Matildas' preparations for the Qualifiers.

CANBERRA ECLIPSE

2001/02 Season	Champions
2001/02 Top Scorer	Caitlin Munoz (8)
Key Additions	Kristyn Swaffer
Key Losses	Bridgette Starr
Matildas	(Current, 6) Sacha Wainwright, Peita-Claire Hepperlin, Amy Wilson, Rhian Davies, Gill Thomson, Tal Karp, (Former, 2) Amy Taylor, Kristyn Swaffer
Young Matildas	(Canada, 3) Caitlin Munoz, Luisa Marzotto, Lisa Hartley, (Former, 1) Simone Borucinski

NSW SAPPHIRES

2001/02 Season	Runners-Up
2001/02 Top Scorer	Kelly Golebiowski / Alicia Cavanagh (8 each)
Key Additions	Julie Murray, Danielle Small
Key Losses	Joanne Peters, Heather Garrook, Collette McCallum, Alicia Cavanagh
Matildas	(Current, 4) Kelly Golebiowski, Anissa Tann, Cassandra Kell, Thea Slatyer (Former, 3) Julie Murray, Danielle Small, Taryn Rockall
Young Matildas	(Canada, 3) Thea Slatyer, Emma Davison, Catherine Cannuli (former, 1) Kathryn Collins

NORTHERN NSW PRIDE

2001/02 Season	5th
2001/02 Top Scorer	Katie Gill (5)
Key Additions	Tracy Baker
Key Losses	Jodie Randall
Matildas	—
Young Matildas	(Canada, 5) Amber Neilson, Hayley Crawford, Katie Gill, Lorissa Stevens, Rose Dunne (Former, 3) Tracy Baker, Rachael Alley, Harmonie Attwill

QUEENSLAND STING

2001/02 Season	3rd
2001/02 Top Scorer	Lana Harch (4)
Key Additions	Bryony Duus, Heather Garrook, Belinda Dawney
Key Losses	Traci Bartlett, Alicia Ferguson, Zoe Nolan
Matildas	(Current, 5) Heather Garrook, Kate McShea, April Mann, Natalie Thomas, Olivia Hohnke (Former, 2) Bryony Duus, Claire Nichols
Young Matildas	(Canada, 5) Kate McShea, Lana Harch, Karla Reuter, Elissia Canham, Jessica Mitchell

ADELAIDE SENSATION

2001/02 Season	4th
2001/02 Top Scorer	Lia Augimeri (6)
Key Additions	Dianne Alagich (later in season)
Key Losses	Cheryl Salisbury, Lia Augimeri
Matildas	(Current, 1) Dianne Alagich (Former, 1) Leanne Trimboli
Young Matildas	(Canada, 1) Stacey Stocco (Former, 2) Lisa DeVanna, Chichi May

VICTORIA VISION

2001/02 Season	6th
2001/02 Top Scorer	Belinda Pacella (2)
Key Additions	Jamara Maza, Sarah Fitzgerald
Key Losses	Melinda Minstrell, Daniela Digiammarco
Matildas	(Current, 1) Melissa Barbieri
Young Matildas	(Canada, 1) Selin Kuralay, (Former, 2) Louisa Bisby, Sarah Fitzgerald

PREMIERSHIP BIZARRO

Nige and Fergy here, from BananaTV's Premiership Bizarro. Every week we're going to give you our views and opinions on what's going on, and off, in the English Premiership.

Downtown Sunderland is a place of ongoing controversy. It seems that David O'Leary is now the favourite to land the managers job, after Peter Reid interviews him for it. Yes, Reidy is rumoured to be interviewing his own successor. Not going down without a fight, Sunderland vanquished the equally inept Aston Villa in a 1-0 nail biter.

Anyone know Jobseek's phone number.

Spurs are on the rumour mill again. They are almost interested in Juventus striker Marcello Salas. After almost signing Rivaldo, nearly talking to Morientes, after speaking to Maccarone's dentist in the boozer. We saw Sergei Rebrov reduced from an 11 million squids superstar, to a player that couldn't get a game with the local pub team. Is this the same fate awaiting poor ol' Robbie Keane? He still hasn't hit the back of the onion bag

Fuzzy Face Bates is at it again. In all his wisdom he does an about turn and toe punts his current employees in the bollocks. Trying to reduce the massive Chelsea debt, Ken's new policy is – don't pay your players

what you owe them. Having reached the UEFA Cup, senior players qualified for a 20 grand bonus, sensational 20 thousand in the wallet. But no – the man from Stamford Bridge, he say no. Ken, your idea of employer/employee relations is from the age of the Industrial Revolution. Bring on the workhouse and the gruel. Dennis Wise, newly married to the Mill, started the relationship as we should have expected. He got booked in the 3rd minute of his debut.

The more things change, the more they stay the same.

On Royston watch, it has come to light that Mr Mad is a miracle to modern medicine. His recovery rate from his hip operation has been so phenomenal that he could be back to reek his own brand of havoc in 3 weeks. This is just 4 days after his misconduct trial, in which, it is rumoured, that Royston will be calling Alfe Haaland as part of his defence. Sounds like his defence will be similar to Spurs'. And as we know ...they have no defence.

See you next week.

Nige and Fergy

To catch Nige and Fergy on Premiership Bizarro, their internet TV show, go to www.bananatv.com. And click on Premiership Soccer. New episodes added each week. Don't miss it.



NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE

After Round 2	TOTAL							PTS	HOME						AWAY					
	P	W	D	L	BYE	F	A		P	W	D	L	F	A	P	W	D	L	F	A
NEWCASTLE UNITED	3	2	0	1	0	7	2	6	2	2	0	0	7	0	1	0	0	1	0	2
PERTH GLORY	3	2	0	1	0	6	4	6	1	0	0	1	3	4	2	2	0	0	3	0
WOLLONGONG WOLVES	3	1	2	0	0	5	3	5	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	1	9	5	3
SYDNEY UNITED	3	1	2	0	0	3	1	5	1	1	0	0	2	0	1	0	2	0	1	1
OLYMPIC SHARKS	2	1	1	0	0	4	1	4	1	1	0	0	3	0	1	0	1	0	1	1
FOOTBALL KINGZ	3	1	1	1	0	4	2	4	2	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	4	1
ADELAIDE CITY FORCE	2	1	1	0	1	3	2	4	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	2	1
BRISBANE STRIKERS	3	1	0	2	0	6	8	3	1	0	0	2	2	5	1	1	0	0	4	3
NORTHERN SPIRIT	3	1	0	2	0	3	10	3	1	0	0	1	1	4	2	1	0	1	2	6
MELBOURNE KNIGHTS	2	0	2	0	1	2	2	2	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1
SOUTH MELBOURNE	2	0	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	2
PARRAMATTA POWER	2	0	1	1	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	0
MARCONI STALLIONS	3	0	1	2	0	3	6	1	2	0	1	1	3	4	1	0	0	1	0	3

BRISBANE STRIKERS

(F Rech 82')

WOLLONGONG WOLVES

(S Young 7', 16', Z Babic 31')

Venue: Ballymore Stadium. Crowd: 2,065. Referee: C. Zetter.

Cautions: S Stefanutto (BS) 66', R Alagich (BS) 72', S Laybutt (BS) 86', R Stanton (WW) 52'.

Teams: **BRISBANE STRIKERS:** Kearton, Alagich, Stefanutto, McKain, McLaren, Grierson, Rech, Laybutt, Trajanovski (Roche 52'), Carbone (McKay 46'), Pilic (Rose 63').

Subs Not Used: Baldock (gk).

WOLLONGONG WOLVES: Crews, Austin, Stanton, Cervinski, Wells (Aliffi 75'), Lyons (Timpano 90'), Babic (Heffernan 67'), Young, Sekulovski, Farah, Huxley.

Subs Not Used: Whalan (gk).

ADELAIDE CITY FORCE

(M Valkanis 72', N Budin 87')

MARCONI STALLIONS

(A Brosque 57')

Cautions: G Last (MS) 17', A Brosque (MS) 38', R Enes (MS) 43', G Talevski (MS) 63', G Lagati (ACF) 56'. Referee: Mark Shield.

Crowd: 2,800 approx. Venue: Marconi Stadium.

Marconi Stallions: Turnbull, Gibson, Webb, Longo, Perinich (McDonald 85'), Enes, Brosque, Fitzsimmons (Anabalon 56'), Last, Sekulic, Talevski.

Subs Not Used: Cotte, Alogdellis (gk).

Adelaide City Force: Martin, Lagati, Kovacevic, Valkanis, Pantelis, Veart, Vidmar, Lozanovski, Tunbridge, Pellegrini, Pelosi (Budin 25').

Subs Not Used: Fyfe, Rees, Godley (gk).

NEWCASTLE UNITED

(J Griffiths 23', 32', 67', S Thomas 47', A Moreira 76')

NORTHERN SPIRIT

Referee: M. Breeze. Crowd: 5,219. Venue: Energy Australia Stadium. Cautions: J Griffiths (NU) 62', J Hutchinson (NS) 37', V Tomasevic (NS) 49', A Tobin (NS) 58'.

Teams: **Newcastle United:** Beltrame, Roberts, Thomas, J Griffiths (Moreira 76'), Tsekenis (R Griffiths 74'), Baillie, Blagojevic, Masi, A Griffiths, Middleby, Eagleton (Dodd 84').

Subs Not Used: Willis (gk).

Northern Spirit: Henderson, Watts, Bell, Spencer, Tobin, McDermott, Ferguson, Hutchinson, Tomasevic, Thorp (Fisher 46'), Richter (Trajkovski 78').

Subs Not Used: Wilkinson, Acevski (gk).

Red Cards: S Bell (NS) 39', V Tomasevic (NS) 61'.

SOUTH MELBOURNE

(V Coveny 24')

SYDNEY UNITED

(B. Cacic 32')

Referee: Perry Mur. Crowd: 4,156. Venue: Bob Jane Stadium. Cautions: V Coveny (SM) 70', B Pavic (SU) 33', D Collina (SU) 43', N Arrarte (SU) 51'.

Teams: **South Melbourne:** Anastasiadis, Iosifidis, De Amicis, Durakovic, Clarkson (Tolios 88'), Panopoulos (Liparoti 77'), Coveny, Lia, Murdocca (Sekulovski 68'), Baird, Kisinorbo.

Subs Not Used: Galekovic (gk).

Sydney United: Ivesa, Cacic, Pavic, Bilokapic (Rudan 46'), Arrarte, Mendez (Cevenini 72'), Collina (Jedinak 46'), M Santalab, Brain, Menapi, B Santalab.

Subs Not Used: Perosh (gk).

FOOTBALL KINGZ

PERTH GLORY

(B Santalab 49', C Menapi 74')

Referee: Con Dimis. Crowd: 3,282. Venue: Ericsson Stadium.

Subs Not Used: Mouhouti, Matassa (gk).

Cautions: M Atkinson (FK) 5', C Jackson (FK) 7', J Taylor (FK) 60', H Miyazawa (FK) 72', S Miller (PG) 11', J Harnwell (PG) 32'.

Teams: **Football Kingz:** Utting, Taylor, Atkinson, Jackson, Almendra, Campbell (Urlovic 66'), Vlahos, Ngata, deGregorio (Turner 58'), Miyazawa, Van Steeden (Foundoulakis 46').

Subs Not Used: Bannatyne (gk).

Perth Glory: Petkovic, Horsley, Harnwell, Hassell (Faria 88'), Gumprecht, Miller, Despotovski (Mrdja 84'), Junior, Mori, Pryce, Tarka.

Parramatta Power

Olympic Sharks

Due to deadline reasons we were unable to print the final score and match report between both these sides that met last Monday at Parramatta Stadium. A full report will be seen in next week's ABSW along with full photo coverage of the match.

PLAYER OF THE WEEK



Joel Griffiths (Newcastle United)

After reading the top scorers chart for the past two weeks, it was unusual not to see the name Joel Griffiths fair amongst the rest of the National League's top scorers.

It was however a different story last week against the hapless Spirit as 'Griffo' thumped in his first ever hat trick in the National League to gift the Novacastrians a five-nil victory at home.

The 23-year-old notched up 10 goals last season for Ian Crook's side and is hoping to further his tally in this season's National League campaign.

LEADING GOALSCORERS

Name	Club	Total
NGATA Heremala	Football Kingz	4
GRIFFITHS Joel	Newcastle United	3
BROSQUE Alex	Marconi Stallions	3
MORI Damian	Perth Glory	3
RECH Fernando	Brisbane Strikers	3

BYE - MELBOURNE KNIGHTS



National League Action Between Marconi Stallions vs Adelaide City Force

By Carlos
Furtado





National League Action Between South Melbourne vs Sydney United



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Be part of one of the most successful clubs in the last five years.
The following coaches are required U/21's Coach must have minimum Senior Licence.

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SUPER YOUTH LEAGUE

Come and trial with one of the most successful clubs in the last five seasons.

Head Coach: Thomas McCulloch
Super League Coach of the Year

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20TH AND 27TH AND NOVEMBER 3RD

U/12's 9.00am, U/13's 10.30am, U/14's 12.00noon
U/15's 2.00pm, U/17's 3.30pm

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23RD

U/13's and U/14's 6.30pm

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24TH

U/15's and U/17's 6.30pm

Please arrive 30 minutes prior to register.
All trials to be held at Hajduk Stadium
130 Edensor Road, St Johns Park

ENQUIRIES CONTACT CHARLES ABDILLA
0416 171 896 OR 9757 2906

FROM THE Dressing Sheds



By Mark Stavroulakis

-This week I thought I'd venture into the world of web sites in search of what our very own National League clubs have to offer.

Almost every club do own a website, some updated often, others, well... just read each clubs comments and judge for yourself.

1) Adelaide City Force (??)

Unfortunately the famous Black and White's have no web site. After countless searches across the net there was nothing on this historic club that incidentally has won 3 NSL Championships.

I think Club President Bob D'Ottavi should have a look into this situation amidst the problems his currently facing with him wanting to play all home matches at Norwood this season.

Rating 0/10

2) Brisbane Strikers (<http://www.brisbanestrikers.com>)

The lads from the Sunshine Coast have certainly done a good job on their web site equipped with all the information you need to know about the club.

Results and tables are updated frequently however the news section is a bit drab.

Full marks however goes to Thor (Club Mascot) section, some terrific shots of the Strikers main man!

Rating 7/10

3) Football Kingz (<http://www.footballkingz.co.nz>)

Technology in New Zealand hasn't looked much better than this as the Kingz site offers their supporters the best information possible on the club and their squad.

The down side to this site would be its lack of up-to-date news, however there is a lot of fun links you could play around with.

If you want to be a Kingz 'Ball Boy' for their next home game, follow the main link that appears on the page and you could be that lucky person!

Rating 7.5/10

4) Marconi Stallions (<http://www.marconifc.com>)

The good aspect about Marconi's website is, that there is one out there, the only problem is, it hasn't been updated since July LAST YEAR.

Kris Trajanovski (now of Brisbane), Maisano Brothers (Gone to Scotland), Korean import Pan Keun Kim (now retired) and Oceania's giant killer in scoring goals Archie Thompson (Lierse, Belgium) all still feature in Marconi's squad apparently.

This web site has the makings of a good one however it needs to be updated immediately otherwise people will still think that these players seem to exist at the club.

Rating 2/10

5) Melbourne Knights (<http://www.melbourneknights.com.au>)

The Knights might have had their fair share of problems in the National League with Player/Manager Andrew 'Stabba' Marth finding it hard to grab players for this seasons squad however they've done extremely well in their bid to keep their web-site alive.

It does rank amongst the best sites of the National League, well maintained in statistics to top quality and up to date news from various newspapers from across Australia.

With a very easy toolbar to help you through the site, the Knights get an A in their efforts on the web.

The only downer would be no photos of the team squad.

Other than that it's one of the NL's best!

Rating 8/10

6) Newcastle United (<http://www.newcastleunited.com.au>)

"Welcome to Newcastle United Football Club's Official Website. The Newcastle United Web Site is currently under repair, so please excuse any difficulties you may encounter."

These are the words pasted on United's web site, with the season well under-way, the site is still on holidays.

The site was great during last season's campaign however this year, well, an upgrade is needed immediately.

Rating 3/10

7) Northern Spirit (<http://www.northernspirit.com.au>)

The Spirit have opted for a more simple approach in their web design.

It's straight to the point with the latest on Spirit news, stats are updated frequently. Not a bad site at all, more colour and photos will add a whole new dimension to it though.

Rating 6.5/10

8) Parramatta Power (<http://www.parrapower.com.au>)

This would have to rank amongst the elite sites, the Power have done a great job in maintaining the site.

Match reports, coach's comments, photo library of the

squad, youth listings, a fans page and more is included in the Power web.

No doubt the memory used on this site would have to have been upgraded since last year with the amount of new players brought to the club, but overall there's nothing really bad about the site.

Oh yes, I think I, like everyone else hate when pop up advertisements come on the screen, once you enter into the site two will automatically spring up, but internet users don't worry, hit the X button and before your very eyes they will both disappear.

Rating 9/10

9) Perth Glory (<http://www.perthglory.com>)

This would have to be the best site in the National League.

Information coming out of all ends, the pages themselves are equipped with vibrant colours and accurate and up-to-date information on the Glory this season.

Take a bow Perth Glory.

Rating 9.5/10

10) Olympic Sharks (<http://www.olympicsharks.com>)

Anything with a link towards the Sharkettes web site is also a winner in my book!

The Sharks site is also up there with the best, a great layout with archives and photos of players, this really is a site for the Grand-Final champions, too bad their famous mascot - Andrea The Legend isn't featured in the site.

Rating 9/10

11) South Melbourne (<http://www.southmelbourne.com.au>)

Unfortunately the sound of the infamous trumpet as heard at Bob Jane Stadium week in week out is not a feature in this site but if added would make it great, this site also takes up the usual web design approach.

It's a standard site with news and views from supporters of the club.

Rating 7.5/10

12) Sydney United (<http://www.sydneyunited.com.au>)

Having just received a massive upgrade to their site, the Bravehearts oopps Sydney United have created a quality site.

It's got the makings of a terrific design with a top layout and current photos of all squad members.

More news is required, also I noticed a few typos but overall a great site!

Rating 8/10

13) Wollongong Wolves (<http://www.wolves.com.au>)

Like Sydney United, the Wolves have also gone through a much-needed upgrade in regards to their web site.

The design is filled with bits and pieces ranging from news, youth reports, downloads and a forum as well.

Rating 8.5/10

- It was brilliant to see the National League come to life in Round 2 with many amazing results that left punters scratching their heads.

'Kossie's big win in Perth

was the WIN of the year so far while Branko Culina looked very calm on the sideline after his squad took care of Newcastle United two-nil.

I think during that match Assistant Coach Ivan Petkovic did most of the shouting with Culina, calm as ever, glued to the bench watching his team score their first victory of the season.

★★★★

-With yet another National Identification Tournament now over, the overall view on the competition was that it was top quality.

Many players representing states from across Australia did their part in achieving the tag of being Country champions.

During the Nationals it was a who's who of soccer celebrities, keeping a keen eye on future players.

Parramatta Coach Nick Theodorakopoulos, Assistant-coach Jim Fraser, Olympic Sharks mentor Gary Phillips, Spirit's Lawrie McKinna, Feyenoord scout Dave Mitchell, former Glasgow Rangers star Stuart Munro, AIS head coach Steve O'Connor, Australian youth coach Ange Postecoglou and Socceroo coach Frank Farina were just some of the many A-List personnel who attended the pitches of NSW Soccer headquarters at Parklea.

Also lurking beside the pitches were a number of player agents and scouts from overseas clubs.

★★★★

-Just on the Nationals themselves, evident in NSW's U15 side was a promising young player by the name of Tarek Elrich. And you guessed it, Tarek is the younger brother of Power star Ahmad Elrich.

While were on the point of coincidences, NSW's U16 squad featured Pablo Cardozo's younger brother Richie Cardozo.

The pair are hoping to follow the footsteps of their brothers in year's to come.

★★★★

-Did you know that former 'hard man' and ex-Socceroo George Kulcar has swapped the boots with the pen and pad?

The former QPR star was ACT/Canberra's under 16 State coach during last week's Nationals.

With George off the pitch, referees will have a much easier time in reference to dishing out cautions and send-offs!

★★★★

-Although we have yet to see any sacking or firings at any NL clubs so far, three ladies announced their resignations from their respective jobs last week.

Soccer Australia's Communications lady Anita Bulan, Parramatta Power's PR Taghred Chandab and Marconi Stallions Administration officer Gabriella Genovese have all resigned from their jobs.

The only woman left I guess is Parra Power CEO Angela Travis!

★★★★

-One man who seems to have put the style back in shorts is Wolves numero uno Ron Corry.

It's good to see Ron get into the playing spirit by warming

Round 4 Fixtures

FRIDAY 11/10

Wollongong Wolves v Football Kingz
Northern Spirit v South Melbourne

SATURDAY 12/10

Olympic Sharks v Brisbane Strikers

SUNDAY 13/10

Adelaide City Force v Parramatta Power
Perth Glory v Newcastle United
Melbourne Knights v Marconi Stallions

Bye - Sydney United

up goalkeeper Andrew Crews who has been in great form of late before every match.

If only other coaches opted the more laid back approach to watching the match with many choosing to wear Versace or Hugo Boss suits.

★★★★

-Archie Thompson, remember him?

Renowned across the world as the giant killer of Oceania strikers, his 13 well-taken goals against the much-fancied American Samoa in their tough 31-0 win last April has done little justice to his soccer career this season.

Currently on the books for Belgium side Lierse, Thompson has been rather quiet with his new squad.

More updates will be evident in following editions of 'From The Dressing Sheds' as ABSW speak to the people behind X-Files in the search to find out what is really happening to good old Archie?

★★★★

-The Olympic Sharks have changed dates of all their remaining home matches starting from Round 6 when they entertain Newcastle United.

Originally set for a Saturday night kick-off, due to a rise in Greek's attending christenings, weddings and so forth, Sunday has been pencilled in as the new replacement day.

★★★★

-A Willie Mason look-alike was spotted at the Sydney United Sports Centre at United's first home match against Newcastle.

Spotted on Sydney United's bench actually was young Anthony Doumanis who's hair does resemble that of the Canterbury Bulldogs star - Keep the hair do up BMA.

★★★★

-It's good to see an 'Aussie' connection establishing itself firmly at Dutch club Feyenoord.

The UEFA Cup champions currently have three Australians on their books, Brett Emerton, Brett Holman and Michael Brown.

The latter are currently on loan to sister-club Excelsior where from reports are doing really well.

The trio all live in the same complex in Rotterdam.

★★★★

-Marconi Stadium was full of colour last week with a number of ex-National league stars present at the match between the Stallions and the Adelaide Force. Former Socceroo coach Eddie Thompson, Ex-Sydney City star Gerry Gomez, Australian Youth coach Ange

Postecoglou and the AIS contingent of current coach Steve 'Rocky' O'Connor and former AIS head-man Ron 'Smudger' Smith all witnessed the Force defeat the winless Stallions at home.

★★★★

-Fans of Uruguayan football hold your breath as one of the countries leading teams in the league Penarol are coming to Australia. The guest side will take on National League club the Marconi Stallions on the 16th November and have also organized a few other friendly matches.

Penarol will be bringing their FULL squad to Australia.

More updates on this issue dates-times-venues and so forth will be explained in forth coming ABSW editions.

★★★★

-It was quite odd to see Stallions player Tony Perinich sporting a different type of jersey compared to his teammates during last week's match against the Force. The Stallions are of course sponsored by long term partners Brescia Furniture and it is clearly printed on every Marconi jersey but last week Perinich's displayed nothing? Very interesting indeed?

★★★★

-From Perth to Baghdad with love -Former Perth Glory coach Bernd Stange has unbelievably accepted a full time job as the new National Team coach of Iraq. The former East German mentor has had his fair share in coaching international squads, his resume reads: Coach of Oman, had a stint with German club VfB Leipzig and also Ukrainian club Dnipro Dnepropetrovsk.

His main aim is to lead the Iraqi's to World Cup qualification in 2006 - hate to see him fail however, who knows what the Iraqi authorities will do if that happens? Stange is certainly showing a lot of courage that's for sure.

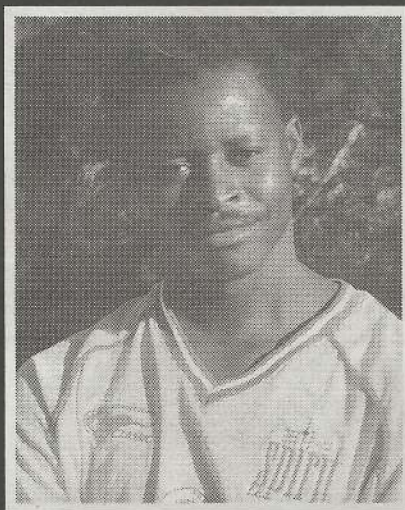
★★★★

-It's good to see the voice of soccer, Colin Turner return to the radio last week as Radio 2 1611 have successfully claimed the rights for broadcasting National League matches live every Friday and Saturday nights.

Turner, the host of the show, will call the matches with various guest speakers and supporters ahead of the matches selected, bringing at last some much needed coverage of Australian soccer to its supporters.

The program will air immediately after the 7 O'clock news on both respective nights.

BAD BOY OF THE WEEK



Simon Bell

(Northern Spirit)

This week's bad boy of the week was handed out to Spirit defender Simon Bell. The 23-year-old was certainly out of order during last week's clash at Energy Australia Stadium against Newcastle United, where the latter thrashed the North Sydney side five-nil.

Bell was adjudged to have manhandled referee Matthew Breeze after awarding a free kick to Newcastle in the 39th minute. The ardent Cameroonian apparently slapped Breeze's hand and after the defender was shown the red, he had to be restrained by two Newcastle players before leaving the pitch.

This was his third send off in two months and questions have been raised as to whether he has a future with the club after last Friday's incident.

Round 5 Fixtures

FRIDAY 18/10

Newcastle United v Wollongong Wolves

SATURDAY 19/10

Parramatta Power v Melbourne Knights
Brisbane Strikers v Adelaide City Force

SUNDAY 20/10

Football Kingz v Olympic Sharks
South Melbourne v Perth Glory
Sydney United v Northern Spirit

Bye - Marconi Stallions

NEW SOUTH WALES FOOTBALL

www.soccernsw.com.au



2002 NATIONAL TALENT IDENTIFICATION CHAMPIONSHIPS

Having secured a Final spot with a victory over Queensland the day before, New South Wales continued their dominance in the NTIC with a comprehensive display against an impressive South Australia, winning 4-0 at Melita Stadium.

Although the win illustrated the ease of victory, it was facilitated by an unfortunate South Australian send off midway through the first half.

The South Australian strategy of containing key striker Bruce Djite didn't achieve much, as the runners up front and from midfield used this opportunity to attack the South Australian goal almost at will. After a classy-headed goal from an unmarked Breagan O'Connor in the 12th minute, New South Wales gained momentum and three minutes later, livewire Bradley Porter ran within range and blasted from 20 metres past a stranded Matt Crossley in the Queensland goal.

With the earlier mentioned Kraig Andrews dismissal providing no consolation, New South Wales continued to make inroads into the hapless South Australian team, by now hoping to gain solace at the half time break. But even refreshed, South Australia faced a Herculean task of coming back into the game with odds so stacked against them; and even though they were gallant tryers to the end, a Joel Vasquez effort in the 61st and second from Porter in the final minute sealed their fate.

The Under 16 final between Queensland and South Australia was a game that could have gone either way. Queensland took the honours scoring the winning goal through striker Tim Smits in the

8th minute of extra time.

For a game that promised much, a dour struggle is its best definition as both sides played cautious and close football, keen to negate opposing raids rather than play an open, attacking game.

Still, glimpses of enterprise were shown by both sides; but were either duffed at the death or well saved by both 'keepers.

The best strike of the game fell to South Australia two minutes into the second half when midfielder Matthew Gaston who, coming at pace from deep, blasted a shot which grazed the cross-bar from 20 metres. Queensland, not to be outdone, seized an opportunity to score when, in the 60th minute defender Bobby Bruce crossed a ball to an unmarked Shawn O'Neill who turned it over the bar from four metres.

As the game wore on, Queensland looked the side most likely to score and when Tim Smits slotted the ball home in the 88th minute, the feeling was one of relief and ecstasy for players and spectators alike.

The New South Wales Under 16 team finished the NTIC in third place following a resounding 2-1 victory over ACT the Friday night.

The circumstances that landed the Blues in the 3rd/4th playoff were due to a disappointing performance, by their own standard, in the semi-final against Queensland earlier in the day.

It was the old case of controlling the game, having plenty of chances, but failing to find the net.

The gods were definitely not smiling on the New South Welshmen when Queensland were awarded a penalty in the 65th minute which was



NSW Under 15 State Team - 2002 National Champions

duly converted by Ross Fenech to put the Maroons into the final.

But all was not lost for NSW with National Youth Coach, Ange Postecoglou, selecting eight NSW players in his 23-man Australian Under 17 team squad which is currently in camp to prepare for next year's FIFA Under 17 World Championship Oceania qualifiers.

The 6-day camp, which will be held at Valentine Sports Park and will feature two training matches:

Game 1

Australian Under 17 squad v Marconi Youth Team
Tuesday 8 October, 7.30pm

Game 2

Australian Under 17 squad v Parramatta Power Youth Team
Thursday 10 October, 7pm

Qualifying matches for the 2003 FIFA Under 17 World Championships are scheduled for February next year. The FIFA Under 17 World Championships are to be played in August 2003 in Finland.

Australia have had significant success at this level most notably finishing runners-up to Brazil in 1999.

THE 23-MAN AUSTRALIAN U17 SQUAD:

No.	Player	State	Position
1	Nathan Hughes	NSW	GK
2	Mario Aparicio	QLD	GK
3	Keegan Wolfenden	NNSW	DF
4	Nigel Boogard	NNSW	DF
5	Keegan Nash	SA	DF
7	Ben Griffin	QLD	DF
8	Jonathan Higgins	WA	DF
9	Glenn Littlebury	NSW	DF
10	Yianni Sarris	SA	DF
11	Lachlan Cahill	NSW	DF
12	Oliver Totani	SA	MF
13	Eric Paartalu	NSW	MF
14	Stefan Delzio	NSW	MF
15	Dane Richardson	QLD	MF
16	Daniel Leach	QLD	MF
17	Kristian Sarkies	VIC	MF
18	Angelo Martino	NSW	MF
19	Adam Casey	ACT	FW
20	Richie Cardozo	NSW	FW
21	Chris Theodosiou	NSW	FW
22	Matthew Deegan	SA	FW
23	Tim Smits	QLD	FW



Third placed NSW Under 16 State Team

NEW SOUTH WALES
FOOTBALL

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2002 NTIC Results



UNDER 15

Day 1

ACT 2 (Malysiak 11', Menegazzo 25') **South Australia 4** (Andrews 19', Gounder 37', Catanzariti 51' 58'), **Northern NSW 0** **Country NSW 0**, **Queensland 3** (Grossman 9', De Silva 41', Stenhouse 61') **Country Queensland 0**, **NSW 2** (Djite 9', Gough 67') **Northern Territory 0**, **Victoria 5** (Sivic 2', Ayach 24' 45', Rojas 42', Chisholm 60') **Tasmania 1** (Banfield 22'), **Western Australia 1** (Ryder 51') **Country Victoria 1** (McIlroy 22').

Day 2

South Australia 2 (Gounder 9', Armstrong 49') **Tasmania 1** (Bilac 2'), **Country NSW 2** (Hale 35', Johnson 64') **Country Victoria 1** (Dogam 21'), **Queensland 0** **Victoria 0**, **NSW 2** (Djite 6', Sencion 46') **Western Australia 1** (Atak 31'), **ACT 1** (Malysiak 46') **Country Queensland 0**, **Northern NSW 3** (Hearfield 8', Ahern 19, Johnson 70') **Northern Territory 0**.

Day 3

Queensland 2 (Grossman 55' 65'(pen)) **South Australia 3** (Armstrong 30', Girdler 43', Catanzariti 68'(pen)), **Country NSW 0** **NSW 0**, **Country Queensland 2** (Hickey 11', Bloxsome 22'(pen)) **Victoria 0**, **Western Australia 8** (Ryder 7' 44' 48', Trim 9', Bate 20', Perry 55', Brand 64' (pen),

Waind 80') **Northern Territory 0**, **Country Victoria 0** **Northern NSW 3** (Karafilovski 23', Hearfield 40', Koina 53'), **ACT 1** (Connell 59') **Tasmania 2** (Commandari 7'(pen) 14').

Day 4

ACT 0 **Victoria 2** (Suleyman 57', Sivic 65'), **NNSW 4** (Ahern 8', Hearfield 9' 12' 38') **Western Australia 0**, **Queensland 4** (Grossman 9' 18' 61', De Silva 34') **Tasmania 2** (Comandari 6', Ludford 67'), **NSW 3** (Elich 25', Gough 26', Djite 62') **Country Victoria 0**, **South Australia 0** **Country Queensland 2** (Peach 13', Faddy 23'), **Country NSW 6** (Saisanid 12', Costello 19' 23', Nardi 39', Cox 43, Johnson 48') **Northern Territory 0**.

Day 5

ACT 0 **Queensland 4** (Grossman 19', De Silva 49', Scarff 57', Stojakovic 67'), **NNSW 3** (Hearfield 30' 64' 68') **NSW 3** (Gough 34', Djite 46' 54'), **South Australia 0** **Victoria 0**, **Country NSW 0** **Western Australia 2** (Perry 52', Pomfret 60'), **Country Queensland 5** (Hanson 15' 47', Downey 17', Faddy 51' 55') **Tasmania 1** (Comandari 37'), **Northern Territory 0** **Country Victoria 2** (Ferraro 10', Hill 36').

UNDER 15 PLAYOFFS

Day 7

Semi Final AA: Queensland 2 (Grossman 2' 68') **NSW 4** (Gough 9', Porter 13', Sencion 20', Elich 42'); **Semi Final BB: South Australia 6** (Catanzariti 12', Armstrong 18' 33', Thornton 28' 43'(pen), Andrews 40') **NNSW 0**;

3rd-4th: 7:00pm Queensland 4 (Kemp 23', Grossman 28' 50', Suleau 63') **NNSW 3** (Piga 9', Karafilovski 35' Hearfield 67');;

5th-6th: Country Queensland 1 (Laird 6') **Western Australia 0**;

7th-8th: Victoria 2 (Ayash 32', Dimech 54') **Country NSW 0**;

9th-10th: ACT 2 (Malysiak 8', Connell 63') **Country Victoria 0**;

11th-12th: Tasmania 5 (Comandari 6' 24', Bilac 42', Webb 43', Lincoln 51') **Northern Territory 3** (Casimiro 2' 70', Ashley 28').

UNDER 15 FINAL

South Australia 0 **NSW 4** (O'Connor 11', Porter 15', Gough 44', Vasquez 61')

UNDER 15 FINAL STANDINGS

1	NSW
2	South Australia
3	Queensland (Fair Play Award)
4	Northern NSW
5	Country Queensland
6	Western Australia
7	Victoria
8	Country NSW
9	Australia Capital Territory
10	Country Victoria
11	Tasmania
12	Northern Territory

UNDER 16

Day 1

NSW 2 (Paartalu 33', Littlebury 79') **Western Australia 1** (Baczynski 17'), **Queensland 1** (Standley 67') **Country Queensland 0**, **South Australia 4** (Deegan 8' 31', Muscroft 24' 40') **Victoria 0**, **Northern NSW 1** (Wolfenden 70') **Country Victoria 0**, **Country NSW 0** **Tasmania 1** (Sanders 38'), **ACT 5** (Barisic 6' 7' 13', Casey 11', Brennan 74') **Northern Territory 0**.

Day 2

South Australia 2 (Muscroft 12', De Francesco 13') **Country NSW 1** (Lando 67'), **Northern NSW 0** **ACT 4** (Casey 32', Kemp 40', Barisic 65' 73'), **Western Australia 1** (Higgins 60') **Tasmania 0**, **Country Queensland 3** (Lynch 15', Lynn 60', 72') **Northern Territory 0**, **NSW 3** (Giraldi 4', Paartalu 33', Cardozo 74') **Victoria 1** (Garcia 78'), **Queensland 4** (Keane 9', Litchfield 17', Griffin 20', Smits 63') **Country Victoria 1** (Gasparroni 74').

Day 3

Country Victoria 2 (Bace 9', Gasparroni 73') **ACT 4** (Griffiths 18', Barisic 37'(pen), Spaleta 39', Zygmunt 40'), **Victoria 4** (Ikiz 6', Garcia 24', Francis 34' De Nittis 46') **Country NSW 0**, **NSW 8** (Cardozo 7' 16' 38', Littlebury 44'77', Paartalu 63', Theodosiou 72', Giraldi 76') **Tasmania 0**,

Queensland 4 (Caprannini 56', Ide 64' 74', Richardson 70') **Northern Territory 0**, **Western Australia 0** **South Australia 3** (Muscroft 73' 79' Deegan 80'), **Country Queensland 2** (Boston 68', McDonald 78') **Northern NSW 0**.

Day 4

NSW 3 (Gaffney 2', Giraldi 13' 62') **Country NSW 0**, **Queensland 2** (Cappannini 55' 68') **ACT 1** (Barisic 31'(pen)) 1, **South Australia 2** (Matricciani 55', Muscroft 77') **Tasmania 1** (Twine 80'), **NNSW 2** (Boogard 37', Davidson 52'(pen)) **Northern Territory 0**, **Western Australia 1** (Kamasz 53') **Victoria 0**, **Country Queensland 1** (Torrissi 46') **Country Victoria 0**.

Day 5

NSW 1 (Cardozo 37') **South Australia 2** (Matricciani 24', Deegan 78'), **Queensland 0** **NNSW 0**, **Western Australia 0** **Country NSW 1** (Evennett 22'), **Country Queensland 2** (Pearce 16', Torrissi 43') **ACT 2** (Zygmunt 36', Barisic 72'), **Victoria 3** (Sarkies 4', Ikiz 52', Del Rio 57') **Tasmania 0**, **Country Victoria 3** (Gasparroni 4' 10', Maddalena 66') **Northern Territory 2** (Hassall 16', Bryd 32').

UNDER 16 PLAY OFFS

Semi Final CC: South Australia 2 (Deegan 15', Totani 107') **ACT 1** (Nash (og) 71');;

Semi Final DD: NSW 0 **Queensland 1** (Fenech 65'(pen));;

3rd/4th: ACT 1 (Barisic 76') 1 **NSW 2** (Del Zio 52', Littlebury 63');;

5th-6th: Victoria 1 (Garcia 6') **Country Queensland 0**;

7th-8th: Western Australia 1 (Kamasz 31') **NNSW 1** (Morris 49');;

9th-10th: CNSW 2 (Lando 72', Blunn 75') **Country Victoria 1** (Reiss 33');;

11th-12th: Tasmania 3 (Sanders 38' 62', Luck 43') **Northern Territory 0**.

UNDER 16 FINAL

South Australia 0 **Queensland 1** (Smits 88')

UNDER 16 FINAL STANDINGS

1	Queensland
2	South Australia
3	NSW
4	Australian Capital Territory
5	Victoria
6	Country Queensland
7	Western Australia
7	Northern NSW
9	Country NSW
10	Country Victoria
11	Tasmania
12	Northern Territory (Fair Play Award)



NSW Super League



FROM THE SIDELINES By Greg Stock

*The Belconnen Blue Devils have made their first signing of the year, recruiting former Canberra Cosmos star player Ivo de Jesus for the upcoming season. Ivo has most recently played in the National Soccer league with the Melbourne Knights and previously with Fraser Park, Sydney Olympic, Carlton and Blacktown City. He completed two seasons with the Cosmos, playing in 42 games and scoring 17 goals; his 12 in 1999-2000 was the most for the season by a Canberra Cosmos player. Ivo also took out the Cosmos Player of the Year award for the season 1999-2000.

"We are extremely glad to have one of Canberra's soccer icons returning to where he played most of his NSL career and where he was well liked by the crowds," stated Blue Devils' President Alan Jackson. "Ivo will be a great asset to the Blue Devils." Blue Devils' coach Lino Fiorese is looking forward to working with his new acquisition. "Ivo's background playing in the NSL will definitely ensure added experience for us whilst playing in the Premier League."

*Speaking of experienced players, another former Canberra Cosmos star has put pen to paper, this time for APIA-Leichhardt. Ivan Zelic, the younger brother of Ned is set to line up in the middle of the star studded Tigers side, under the stewardship of coach Les De Celis.

*Blacktown City have also made another move signing former Perth Glory utility Dion Valle. Premier League fans would best remember Valle in the Macarthur Rams' strip where he played for seasons 1998 and 1999 racking up an impressive 43 appearances for 1 goal.

"He is an outstanding talent and I have no hesitation in saying he'll be the signing of the year" said Blacktown coach Brian Brown. "He can play in defence or in the midfield and is probably one of the most durable players around." The Demons started their preseason training

last week as they attempt to go one better than last seasons runners-up.

*Stanmore Hawks midfielder Steve Liavas picked up the clubs Best and Fairest Award at their recent awards night. The young dynamo would make a great addition for any Premier League club and is another for the little black book.

The Panthers were leading 1-0 via a penalty though they did have another saved by the Bulls new recruit Darren Moore in goal. According to our spies the best player on the park was the Panthers Peter Bennett, who looks set to drop back to the Premier League after a recent stint in the NSL with the Parramatta Power.



*While on the subject of the Bulls, coach Craig Sharpley was one of a number of coaches to give his side a breather over the long weekend. Sharpley elected to give his troops the three days off before he starts up again four nights a week in preparation for the season kick off. Ben Green from Macarthur Rams and Sefer Yildiz from Bankstown City are his two new signings, and with Paul Richardson confirming he is returning for another year, things are starting to take shape at Nineveh Field.

*Belconnen Blue Devils striker Daniel Macor, Blacktown City's Naoki Imaaya and Bonnyrigg's Chris Bradley have been involved in a 10 team footballing tournament in Fiji this past week. All three suited up for Fijian club side Ba where they enjoyed the hospitality of the locals in their annual end of season tournament. Results of which can be seen on their website www.fiji-football.com.

*St George have been busy trialling for the past four weeks with coach Manny Spanoudakis confident he has the players to build on from last year. Joining him will be Danny Silvestri as Football Operations Manager, John Carnabuci as under 19s coach and Emanuel Constantino as the under 19s team manager. Of last years squad, the number of retained players are Angelo Petratos, Archie Markopoulos, George Maglis, Max Sevares, Simon Verrender, Bradley Campbell, Mark Bariamis and Bruno Beddoni.

Last Season: Finished 5th W12-D4-L6 Won Elimination Semi-Final then lost the Minor Semi-Final

2003 Coach: Lino Fiorese Third season

Last Seasons Top Scorer: Daniel Macor 17 goals

Ins: Ivo De Jesus (Melbourne Knights)

Outs: Shane Lyons (Wollongong Wolves), Nic Purdue (Iceland), Steve Lazzari (Released)

Club Review: After a sensational 2001/2 season, the Blue Devils are looking to take the next step as a team and go all the way. A new home ground is currently under construction in the Canberra suburb of McKellar with a new surface only twelve months old, with a brand new grandstand and canteen facilities.

The club is confident everything will be ready

Last Season: Finished 6th W12-D4-L6

2003 Coach: Craig Sharpley - Second Season

Last Seasons Top Scorer: Marc Hoenselaars 19 goals

Ins: Sefer Yildiz (Bankstown City), Ben Green (Macarthur Rams), Darren Moore (Central Coast), Glenn Sprod (Fraser Park).

Outs: Frank Mikuletic (Released), Paul Bourke (Canterbury-Marrickville), Tom Maric (Canterbury-Marrickville or Rockdale City Suns), Richard Harrison (USA), Leo Carle (Rockdale City Suns), Andrew Ravanello (Connecticut USA), Patrick Darvill (Released), Ray Younis (Parramatta Power), Nick Bosevski (Sweden)

Club Review: The Bulls promised so much



CLUB PREVIEW

Belconnen Blue Devils

for their season opener against Bonnyrigg, with preparations well under way for opening night.

"The facilities at McKellar are coming along well and when completed will be absolutely sensational" said coach Lino Fiorese. "We really need to make sure we turn the ground into a graveyard for visiting teams as we look to take the next step as a club."

Playing Roster: The Blue Devils have had only a few minor disruptions to their playing roster with Shane Lyons and Nic Purdue being the notable absentees.

Steve Lazzari won't be there either, but given that he left halfway through last season, his loss

is more than adequately covered.

The club is still trialling players with a young striker from the ACT Second Division looking sharp and an African born goalkeeper amongst the picks. The enigmatic Ivo De Jesus will wear a Blue Devils strip this season and if Fiorese can get the best out of him, expect the Blue Devils to be very competitive, especially at home.

Aims: "It's a formidable league this year" said coach Lino Fiorese. "There won't be an easy game and to make the top five is going to be a major accomplishment."

It took us about three rounds last year to really get going, as we didn't have enough preseason

games under our belt, but this year we will make sure we play about six or seven to ensure we start the year off on the right foot.

Given that the travelling does impact a little we will continue to do much the same as we did last year which worked quite successfully for us, travelling altogether as a unit. Given all that, our aim is the top five and a home semi-final."

Player To Watch: Daniel Macor - Seventeen goals last year and a Gold Medal has lifted the bar of expectation on Macor who will shoulder much of the clubs striking power.

If Marko 'Mad max' Perinovic can get himself fit, the two of them should cause merry hell on the forward line, with the creative Ivo De Jesus chiming in from deep. If his form holds there is no reason why he can't score another 17 goals and take the Blue Devils to their second successive final series.



CLUB PREVIEW

Fairfield Bulls

last season, but sadly fell at the final hurdle to finish 6th. Some great results (7-3 over St George and 6-3 over Sutherland) proved they could win games and rack up big scorelines but their inability to win the key matches against the top five sides held them back.

Their coach Craig Sharpley is well aware of those difficulties and has been working hard to assemble a side capable of exorcising those demons and making the top five.

Playing Roster: While the club has seen the departure of a number of profile players, Sharpley has concentrated on making sure the players he has bought in are the ones capable of

filling the gaps making a big impact.

Yildiz and Green will slot straight into the defence, Moore will cover for the loss of Mikuletic while, Sprod will take over the mid-field role vacated by Harrison and Ravanello.

With the likes of Paul Richardson and Jason Connolly returning for another year and Marc Hoenselaars and Mathew Borg as the sides two strikers this side does has a very strong look and will be exceptionally hard to beat, especially at the small confines of home ground Nineveh Field.

Aims: "We only missed out last year by a point so we all need to work that touch harder to make

sure we wrap up a top five spot a lot earlier this year" said Sharpley.

"It's every sides objective to make the top five and that is no different for us, and if we can keep our best eleven on the park, we'll be there when the whips are cracking."

Player to Watch: Mathew Borg - Troubled by a chronic knee injury last season Borgy wasn't his usual self scoring just seven goals, but expect that to turn around this year.

According to coach Craig Sharpley, Borg is training well and looks to have shaken off any problems from last year, with the expectation that he can again score 17 goals in a year like he did in seasons 1999 and 2000.

If he and his good mate Marc Hoenselaars can remain fit, they alone have the potential to take the Bulls well inside the top five at season's end.



NSW Sapphires



A JEWEL RETURNS TO THE SAPPHIRES CROWN

This weekend sees the start of the NSW Sapphires campaign in the 2002/03 Women's National Soccer League (WNSL), the premier women's competition in Australia.

After finishing the 2001/02 regular season League 8 points clear of the nearest opposition, the Sapphires lost the Grand Final to the Canberra Eclipse 1-0. Unfortunately this was the second grand final in as many seasons that the Sapphires had lost by the solitary goal. In 2000/01 it was the Queensland Sting that denied the Sapphires the grand final victory in Brisbane.

This year the Sapphires are eager to make amends for past indiscretions. Under new coach, Alen Stajcic, who replaces long serving state coach Allan Bourke, the Sapphires are brimming with confidence.

On paper, the 20-player squad is an awesome collection of the best that Australian Women's Soccer can muster. Led by the legendary Annisa Tann, the current Matilda's captain who claimed her 100th A-International Cap at the recent NIKE Cup in the US, the Sapphires boast another 7 players with senior or youth international experience.

The jewel in the Sapphires crown has definitely got to be the return of the great Julie Murray. The last time Julie was a member of the NSW squad they won the 1999/2000 League and Grand Final. But then in December 2000, Julie left to become the first Australian to be selected to play in the professional Women's United Soccer Association League in the United States with the San Jose Cyber Rays. During her US stint, Murray claimed the title of the CyberRays' leading scorer and was also awarded the most valuable player of the WUSA Championship game where she also scored the winning penalty in the shoot-out against the Atlanta Beat.

In November 2001, Murray shocked all by announcing her retirement from professional soccer and returned home to Australia. Due to problems with gaining a clearance from the Cyber Rays, Murray didn't play during the 2002 NSW Women's Super League Season, but the extended break has given Julie time to fuel the competitive fire in her belly.

Murray and Tann will be well supported by experienced campaigners Kelly Golebiowski (Current Matilda), Cassie Kell (Current Matilda), Taryn Rockall (Former Matilda and 2000/2001 WNSL top goal-scorer), Lisa Warrenner (NSW Sapphires 2000 -2003), Lisa Gilbert (NSW Sapphires 1999 -2003), Michelle Carney (NSW Sapphires 1999-2003), Joanne Burgess (NSW Sapphires 1999), Nicole Kimber (NSW Sapphires 2000-2003) and Sarah Walsh (NSW Sapphires 1996-97,98). One major loss for the Sapphires will be the services of Joanne Peters who will be playing professionally in Brazil during the Summer.

Although the Sapphires have a wealth of experience, it is equally balanced by the presence of youth. Of particular interest is the presence of Young Matildas Catherine Cannuli, Emma Davison and Thea Slatyer who recently competed at the inaugural FIFA U19 Women's World Championships in Canada where the Australians

finished a very credible 5th. Kathryn Collins and Leah Blayney were also selected as standby players for the Young Matildas, but unfortunately didn't tour. One player would have a very successful tournament was Thea Slatyer, who captained the Young Matilda's against England and was then rewarded for her efforts with a place in the Matildas squad for the 2002 NIKE US Women's Cup.

Also adding to the department of youth is NSW U17 Captain, Kylie Ledbrook, who led her team to a national championship in Coffs Harbour this year.

Making their Sapphires debut will be Hayley Todd, Dmitra Polous and Danielle Small.

Coach Stajcic is confident that with the players that he has assembled, the NSW Sapphires will be a force to be reckoned with.

"This year we want to consolidate on past performances and go all the way. We all have a lot to play for this year as selections for the 2003 Women's World Cup are on offer. The opportunity is there for anyone to take, and I'm sure that goal can only benefit our squad in the long term", said Stajcic.

The NSW Sapphires start their campaign against the Queensland Sting on Sunday the 13th of October at Valentine Sports Park, Glenwood (Kick-off 4:00pm).



Julie Murray returns to the Sapphires for 2002/03.

NSW Sapphires 2002/03

	Position	Representative Honours
1 Cassie Kell	GK	Current Matilda
2 Thea Slatyer	DF	Current Matilda
3 Lisa Warrenner	DF	NSW Sapphires (2000 -2003)
4 Kathryn Collins	DF	Young Matilda (standby)
5 Lisa Gilbert	DF	NSW Sapphires (1999 -2003)
6 Annisa Tann	DF	Current Matilda
7 Kylie Ledbrook	MF	NSW U17 Captain
8 Joanne Burgess	MF	Former Sapphires (1999)
9 Julie Murray	FW	Former Matilda, World All-Star team
10 Taryn Rockall	MF	Former Matilda
11 Michelle Carney	MF	NSW Sapphires (1999 -2003)
12 Emma Davison	FW	Young Matilda
13 Catherine Cannuli	FW	Young Matilda
14 Nicole Kimber	MF	NSW Sapphires (2000 -2003)
15 Kelly Golebiowski	FW	Current Matilda
16 Dmitra Poulos	GK	Australian Schoolgirls
17 Leah Blayney	MF	Young Matilda (standby)
18 Danielle Small	FW	Former AIS and NNSW
19 Sarah Walsh	FW	Former Sapphires (1996-97, 98)
20 Hayley Todd	DF	Australian Schoolgirls

Coach: Alen Stajcic
Assistant Coach: Chris Bradley
Physio: Wayne Robertson

NSW Sapphires WNSL Draw

Round 1	Sunday 13th Oct 2002	Kick-Off 4:00pm
NSW Sapphires v Queensland Sting		
Valentine Sports Park, Glenwood, NSW		
Round 2	Saturday 20th Oct 2002	Kick-Off 3:00pm
Adelaide Sensation v NSW Sapphires		
Marden Sports Park, Marden, SA		
Round 3	Sunday 27th Oct 2002	Kick-Off 3:00pm
NSW Sapphires v Victoria Vision		
(Venue TBA), NSW		
Round 4	Sunday 3rd Nov 2002	Kick-Off 3:00pm
Canberra Eclipse v NSW Sapphires		
West Belconnen Leagues Club, Holt, ACT		
Round 5	Friday 8th Nov 2002	Kick-Off 6:00pm
NSW Sapphires v Northern NSW Pride		
Valentine Sports Park, Glenwood, NSW		
Round 6	Sunday 10th Nov 2002	Kick-Off 6:00pm
NSW Sapphires v Canberra Eclipse		
Valentine Sports Park, Glenwood, NSW		
Round 7	Saturday 16th Nov 2002	Kick-Off 7:00pm
Queensland Sting v NSW Sapphires		
Carmichael Park, Tingalpa, QLD		
Round 8	Saturday 23rd Nov 2002	Kick-Off 3:00pm
NSW Sapphires v Adelaide Sensation		
Valentine Sports Park, Glenwood, NSW		
Round 9	Saturday 30th Nov 2002	Kick-Off 3:00pm
Victoria Vision v NSW Sapphires		
(Venue TBA), VIC		
Round 10	Saturday 7th Dec 2002	Kick-Off 6:30pm
Northern NSW Pride v NSW Sapphires		
Jack McLaughlin Oval, Edgeworth, NSW		

Final 1st v 2nd Venue and Time to be Determined

SARAH IN THE MIDDLE

Whilst the under 15 and 16 boys were showing their wares at the National Talent Identification Championships (NTIC) at Valentine Sports Park, another future international star was emerging from the refereeing ranks. 23-year-old Sarah Ho, was the only female referee of the championships and was a late inclusion when the Northern Territory was unable to provide two referees.

Sarah, a former soccer player with the Hazelbrook Hawks in the Nepean Association, had only decided to become a referee 2 years ago after reading an ad in the club newsletter about becoming a referee. Never to back away from a challenge, Sarah took up the whistle and has gone from strength to strength beginning with refereeing under 8's and 9's in the Nepean Association then moving to Youth League and the Women's Super League before capping off her rapid rise with appointments at the U17 State Titles at Plum Park and the NTIC this year.

The secret behind Sarah's success is the support that she has received from the Nepean Referee's Association. From her early days officiating on the parks of the Nepean area, the Nepean Referee's Association encouraged, but

never pushed Sarah too far. Each step was carefully planned so that she never felt out of her depth and learnt the necessary lessons before progressing to the next level. At the moment there are 2 other female referees in the area who are also being nurtured in a similar fashion.

Sarah's road to the NTIC began when Doug Rennie, Soccer Australia's National Referees Coach, spotted her controlling a local Under 10's. With over 38 years experience behind him, Doug identified that Sarah had the traits that could take her to the top of the game.

"I just happened to be watching a local game and noticed Sarah in the middle. When you've been in the game as long as I have, you know whether someone has what it takes, and she definitely has it." Commented Rennie.

During the NTIC Sarah refereed three fixtures and assisted in a further four. When asked how the boys reacted to having a woman in charge, Sarah replied "the fact that I am a woman hasn't really been an issue. As long as you are confident in your decisions, the players will respect you no matter who you are".

One of Sarah's highlights from the NTIC was the feedback from the inspectors. "After every game the inspectors provide us with detailed

notes that have helped me improve my game. That sort of experience is invaluable" said Ho.

Outside of Soccer, Sarah is currently in the final stages of an education degree at UWS-Nepean having already completed a Bachelor in Health Science (Hons). With a natural love of teaching and health, as well as being a former ballet dancer, her desire is to be a high school PDH/PE and also a dance teacher. To keep fit for the rigours of refereeing requires one day a week training with other referees, 4 gym sessions and a regularly running regime. Definitely not a job for the faint of heart.

Where to from Here?

Following her success at the NTIC, Sarah has just been informed that she has been included on the National Youth League and Women's National Soccer League panels and is looking forward to working with other women referees Heidi Breeze, Amelia Morris and Krystyna Szokolai. Like all players and referees, Sarah's dream is to be involved in a World Cup, but in the meantime will be content to keep working hard, learning from her peers and enjoying the experience.

Expect to see Sarah in the middle for a long time to come.



Sarah Ho in control at the 2002 NTIC.



NSW Soccer Federation



J-P's Coaching Tips

Hi Everyone,

Well, the Nationals are over for another year. Congratulations to the Queensland Under 16's and NSW Under 15's for claiming their respective titles, but also congratulations to all the players, coaches, managers, trainers, physio's, volunteers and parents who made the tournament a success. If you didn't get a chance to get out to Valentine Sports Park or Melita Stadium last week, you missed a great opportunity to see our future Socceroo's in action. And I don't say Socceroo's lightly. Soccer Australia commissioner, Les Avory made an interesting point during the closing ceremony that 95% of Socceroo's over the past 15 years have participated at the Nationals. So as you can see, this was a very important event in our coaching and development calendar.

This week, rather than give you a tip, I'd like to give you a little insight into what a State Coaching and Development Manager does during the Nationals.

Day in the life of the Nationals

The day begins with a meeting of the Technical Study Group (TSG) at 8am. The TSG is composed of State Coaching and Development Managers, State Institute Coaches, National Coaching and Development Manager, Jim Selby and the National Youth Coach, Ange Postecoglou. The TSG, are split into two groups with responsibility for either the Under 15's or Under 16's. Once allocated, the TSG or panel as we are sometimes refereed to, then watches every game. The 8am meeting is normally to review the U15's performance from the previous day and the 1pm meetings to review the U16's performances.

The TSG analyse players based on a set list of criteria that are developed by the Soccer Australia.

The criteria included, technical ability, tactical awareness and decision-making, and physical qualities such as speed, power and endurance.

To assist in our analysis, we are also supplied with detailed physiological data from the State Federations prior to the tournament regarding speed off the mark, skin folds, vertical leap etc. All members of the TSG then make detailed notes for discussion at the next meeting.

When I analyse a player, I look at how they affect the game with and without the ball, and whether they

can inject themselves at the appropriate times.

I also pay special attention to their first touch and ability to keep the ball. If a player has good control, perhaps he can make the next level.

When you break each group members analysis down and pool the results, it is quite easy to identify which players are most likely to take the next step.

I was happy to see that 8 NSW players have made the Australian Under 17 National Squad. It is a credit to our State coaching programs from the grassroots to the elite level that these boys have stepped up and will represent our country one day.

The end of an era

The end of the Nationals also signals the end of the term for the players currently involved in the New South Wales Institute of Sport (NSWIS) Soccer Scholarship program. These players will now return to the club system and hopefully NSL positions.

After speaking with NSWIS Head Coach, Kelly Cross, I know he is very proud of the achievements of the NSWIS program, which had a strong involvement in the development of the 8 NSW players selected in the Joeys squad.

Kelly will now look to bring in a number of this years Under 14 players who will be developed with the goal of being selected in the 2005 Joey's Program.

It is anticipated that the squad will be named in mid October, and will start training from November 2nd. Their first big test will be the Sydney Tournament in January.

That's all for this week.

Until Next week

Happy Coaching

Jean-Paul de Marigny
Coaching and Development Manager
NSW Soccer Federation



THE SYDNEY TOURNAMENT — 2003

The NSW Soccer Federation is proud to announce the inception of an exciting soccer event. The Sydney Tournament is designed to be an elite competition for male Under-17 teams, and we are sure it will become an important fixture on the soccer calendar.

The first staging of this tournament will be from 11-19 January, 2003. The school holidays have been chosen so that interstate teams will be able to compete.

BACKGROUND: This will be an elite competition for Under 17 male teams from all over Australia. It is hoped that the tournament will become an important event on the soccer calendar.

Clubs have the opportunity to utilise the tournament as an ideal pre-season event; Oceania nations may wish to use it as preparation for U-17 World Cup Qualifiers.

We will provide referees, quality facilities, access to Sports Medicine staff, elite opposition and trophies, all in a World Cup style scenario.

The tournament is fully endorsed by the New

South Wales Soccer Federation.

VENUE: All games will be played at Valentine Sports Park, Glenwood, the headquarters of the NSW Soccer Federation.

FORMAT: Four groups of four teams, with the top two teams progressing to quarter-finals, and the third and fourth-placed teams progressing to the Plate quarter-finals.

Teams are guaranteed five matches (maximum of six) during the nine-day period. Games will be played almost exclusively in the evening to avoid the hottest part of the day.

QUALIFICATION: Players must be born on or after 1st January, 1986.

SQUAD SIZE: Teams may register a maximum of 20 players.

REGISTRATION FEES: Participation Fee: \$200 per team. Registration Fee: \$40 per player.

FURTHER INFORMATION: Please contact the Tournament Committee by e-mail at the following address:

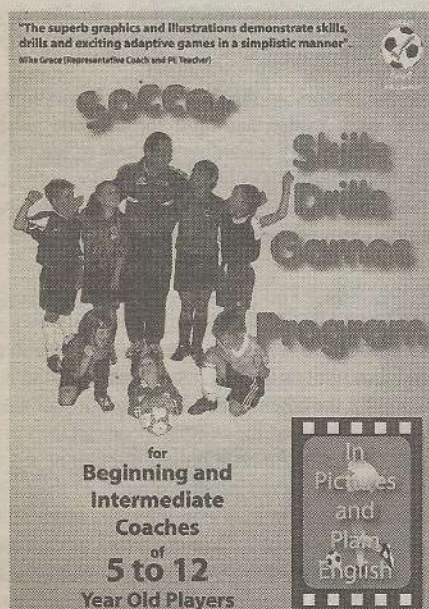
tournament@soccernsw.com.au or /
fax: (+612) 9629 3770
phone: (+612) 9629 1800

We look forward to hearing from you.
THE TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE



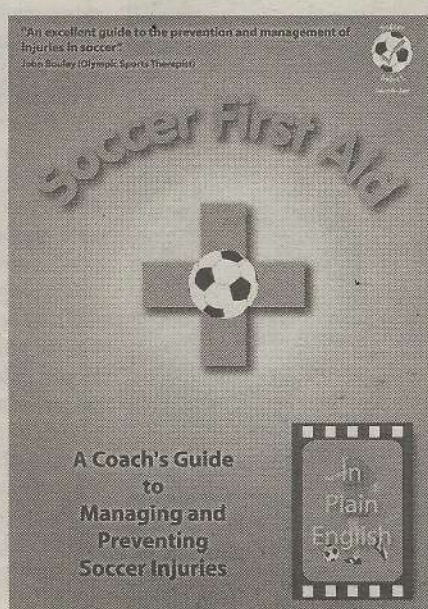
SCHEDULE:

SATURDAY 11 JAN
MATCHDAY 1 ALL GROUPS
SUNDAY 12 JAN
MATCHDAY 2 ALL GROUPS
MONDAY 13 JAN
MATCHDAY 3 GROUPS A AND B
TUESDAY 14 JAN
MATCHDAY 3 GROUPS C AND D
WEDNESDAY 15 JAN
PLATE QUARTER-FINALS
THURSDAY 16 JAN
CUP QUARTER-FINALS
FRIDAY 17 JAN
PLATE SEMI-FINALS
(Exhibition games - plate quarter-final losers)
SATURDAY 18 JAN
CUP SEMI-FINALS
Plate Final and 3rd/4th Play-off
SUNDAY 19 JAN
CUP FINAL and 3rd/4th Play-off



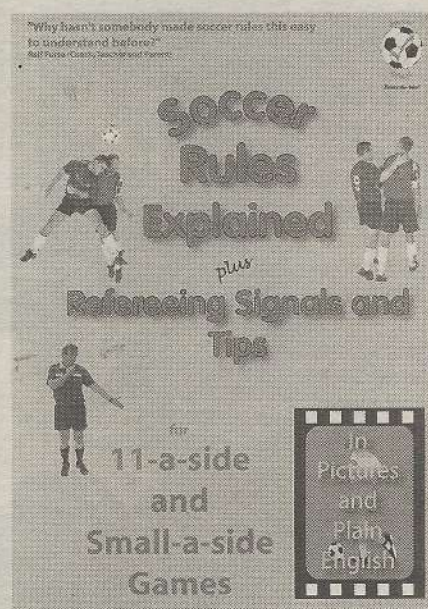
Are your Training Sessions Getting a Little Boring and Predictable?

So, you've inherited the job of coaching your child's soccer team, you were eager enough to do your junior and youth licence, but find yourself doing the same drills over and over again.



The kids are starting to work out there is nothing left in your coaching cupboard and you need to work on shooting, defending and corner's before the weekend's game. Whaddya Do?

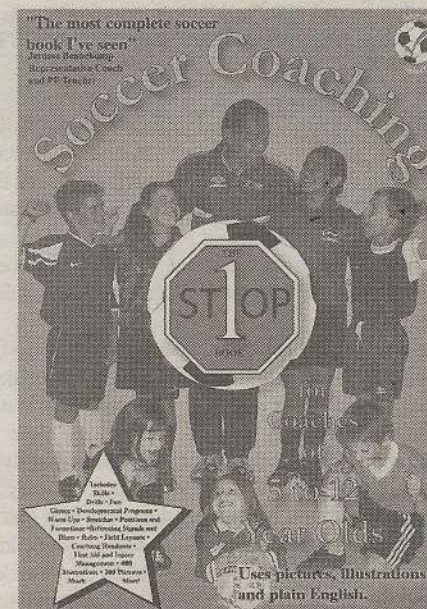
Well the good news is help is available. The Soccer Select Series of Books provides the first time coach, or even the experienced gaffer a large range



of skills and drills to implement at your next training session.

As featured in J-P's Coaching Tips, the books use diagrams and photos in a clear, easy to understand format that allows for simple translation from page to pitch.

But wait, there's more, if you buy through the



NSW Soccer Federation you will get a special price compared to the recommended retail price, even less when you buy in bulk for all the other coaches in your club who are in the same predicament.

For more information, go to www.soccernsw.com.au, email info@soccernsw.com.au or phone (02) 9629 1800.



NSW Youth & Cadet Leagues



By Barry Davis

This week we continued our look at the 2002 Youth and Cadet League Seasons. The Super and Division One League produced many fine performances as well as a few shocks. So without any further ado let's take a look through the leagues.



SUPER YOUTH LEAGUE

Newcastle United won the Club Championship by forty-three points and all four teams qualified to the finals series and yet they had only one minor premier. This is surely proof that consistency across the whole club is the most important factor in achieving the ultimate success. Their 13s finished in second place and they were a constant thorn in the side for minor premiers Nepean who they rolled in the Grand Final after penalty kicks.

The 14s were placed fourth but they did not progress beyond the semi final stage. It was a different story for the 15s who were runners-up in the competition and then went on with the job to claim the Grand Final trophy as well. Winning the minor premiers was not enough for the 17s as they went on to claim the Grand Final in an absolute thriller.

Now the Novocastrians must prepare for a season in the top company. They may need to strengthen all squads if they are to be truly competitive but that should not really be a problem as their region is rich in soccer playing talent.

Bankstown City Cubs were runners-up in the Club Championship and they will join Newcastle United in accepting promotion to the top level for next season. However, they will need to seriously look at player recruitment since only two of their teams made it to the finals. Unfortunately, it was their younger age groups that let them down as the 13s were found in eighth place while their 14s only managed seventh spot, although it must be said that they were only one point behind fifth place. Their 15s had an outstanding season, completing the competition undefeated and in first place but they fell by the wayside in the finals, losing both the major semi final and the preliminary final. The 17s earned fourth place but they were eliminated in the minor semi final.

Macarthur Rams were keen to go back to the top echelon this season but they had to settle for third place overall. While the two younger age groups performed well, the Rams were disappointed with the Mark Williams coached 15s who ended their season in tenth place and Glen Lockhart's 17s who could only manage eleventh spot. On the other hand, John Francko's 13s locked themselves into third position but only made it as far as the minor semi final. Bill Garriock's 14s went the whole hog though as they claimed the minor premiers and then went on to win the Grand Final. The Rams will obviously be planning their next season

very carefully to make sure they make the most of the opportunity to resume their quest for promotion.

AC United finished fourth on the Combined Table but they were well off the pace. They, too, had a mixed bag of results and that has cost them dearly in the race for promotion places. Their 13s were to be found at the foot of the table at season's end with only ten points to show for their efforts. The 15s were a little unlucky in that they missed out on a finals berth by goal difference. However, the 14s finished third on their table before dipping out in the minor semi final and the 17s also earned third place but their chances of further honours evaporated with a penalty shoot-out in the preliminary final. An ambitious club, AC United will be keen to improve on this performance next season and they will be taking the appropriate steps during the coming weeks.

Hajduk Wanderers grabbed fifth spot in the Club Championship but they, like many other clubs, will be taking a long hard look at their performances this year before instituting plans for 2003. Their 13s ended up in tenth place on goal difference while an inferior goal difference placed their 14s in sixth spot and eliminated them from a place in the finals series. The 15s had to settle for eighth position and after sneaking into the finals from fifth place on the competition table, the 17s dropped out after the elimination semi final.

Nepean Association secretary John Todd was smiling from ear to ear and performing his version of an Irish Jig on Grand Final day at the overall performance of his 13s and 14s for the season. The Peter Daglis coached 13s had won the minor premiers and the 14s had scraped into the finals by earning fifth place on goal difference. Even though they both lost out on the day, between them these two teams earned almost seventy percent of the Association's youth league points for the season. The 15s and 17s both finished in twelfth place on their respective tables. Like many others, Mr Todd and company will be busy plotting the ways and means to an improved performance for next year.

Hills United did not have the best of seasons in the younger age groups but they certainly made up for it with the two older teams to finish seventh in the Club Championship. The 13s could only manage thirteenth place and the 14s were placed tenth. However, the 15s grabbed third position and made it all the way to the Grand Final while the 17s were runners-up in their league and capped the season off with an appearance in the Grand Final.

Mingara Lakers will be very disappointed with their eighth place in the Club Championship considering the wealth of playing talent to be found on the Central Coast. It is clear that they will need to do a lot more to attract players to the club if they are to have a more prosperous season in 2003. Their 13s only missed the finals on goal difference and had to settle for sixth spot but the 14s were placed ninth on their table and they were well off the pace. Unfortunately the 15s could only secure thirteenth place while the 17s were placed sixth, four points away from claiming a place in the finals.

Fairfield Bulls were in ninth position on the Combined Table after only one of their teams made it to the finals series. Settling for seventh place may have been a little disappointing for the 13s as they were only three points behind fifth at season's end but the 14s were well down the table in eleventh place and the 17s were well out of contention in eighth spot.



It was the 15s who had the best of seasons for the club as they were placed fourth and then they progressed as far as the minor semi final.

Blacktown Association are going through a period of rebuilding so they may not be all that disappointed with the outcome of this season when they finished in tenth place. Ben de Haan's 14s experienced a very good season as they finished in second spot just three points from the minor premiers and then they progressed as far as the preliminary final. Bob Daley's 15s were off the pace but still finished in a very creditable 7th position. Matten Olim's 13s were struggling for most of the season despite receiving lots of help from Development Coach Keith Healey and they ended up in tenth place while Arthur Dagleish's 17s had a hard time of it to finish up thirteenth. It is hard to keep good people down and they will undoubtedly have a better season next year.

Ku-Ring-Gai Association have for years suffered the loss of most of their best teenage players to private schools and that has always held them back. Therefore, they may not be too distressed about their results in 2002. Best performers for them were the 15s who battled away for fifth spot on goal difference but they dropped out of the finals after the elimination semi final. Their 13s settled for ninth place and the 14s struggled all season and ended up thirteenth. Ending the season in ninth position in the 17s may not be seen as a major disappointment.

Eastern Suburbs is the smallest of the metropolitan Associations and they therefore have to work harder than most for the good results. It would undoubtedly have been very rewarding for them to see their 13s qualify for the finals from fourth place on goal difference even though they did not go past the elimination semi final. Of the other teams, the 14s were placed eighth, the 15s were ninth and the 17s ended up with the wooden spoon.

Bonnyrigg White Eagles have always been competitive so this season will have been seen as being a bit of a disaster from them. A saving grace was the performance of their 13s who crept into the finals in fifth place on goal difference and then went on with the job to make it all the way to the preliminary final. Sadly, the other squads did not go so well with the 14s being placed twelfth, the 15s took the wooden spoon and the 17s were placed tenth. They will be striving for an improved showing next season.

Canterbury Marrickville will be relegated as a result of their overall performance this year and the drop may give them the opportunity to rebuild and taste some genuine success. Best performed of their squads was the 17s who finished seventh but they were not in contention for the finals. The 13s were twelfth, the 14s were at the foot of the table and the 15s completed their commitments in eleventh position.

DIVISION ONE YOUTH LEAGUE

Camden Tigers secretary Fred Mackechnie does a triple back flip every time someone mentions "Youth League" within his hearing. His teams have performed very well in winning the Club Championship to earn promotion even though they had to wait until the very last round to confirm it. Alex Prohett's 13s ended the season in fifth place and then progressed to the preliminary final and Steve Bowers' 14 finished fourth but they dropped out of the finals after the minor semi final. Trevor Davis' 15s led



NSW Youth & Cadet Leagues



the competition for much of the season but fell away near the end to finish third before recovering to make it to the Grand Final. Vince Pesa's 17s were runners-up in the competition and they were eliminated in the preliminary final.

Schofields Scorpions had a very good season to finish in second place on the Combined Table but they will be disappointed that they missed out on promotion. All their teams qualified for the finals series. The 13s were minor premiers and went through to the Grand Final while the 14s earned fifth spot but dropped out of the finals after the elimination semi final. Runners-up in the 15s, they progressed as far as the preliminary final and the 17s were placed fifth on goal difference and then went on with it to qualify for the Grand Final. The club will regroup and they will undoubtedly be back for another tilt at the title next season.

Ryde City worked hard all season to apply continuous pressure to the top two. Finishing third in the Club Championship is certainly no disgrace and the club will be pleased with their effort as three of their teams made it to the finals. The 15s had the toughest of seasons, finishing 13th but they avoided the wooden spoon by a long way. Best performers for the club were the 13s who finished as runners-up on goal difference and then went on to win the Grand Final. They were closely followed by the 14s who ran third before dropping out at the preliminary final and the 17s who also finished third before qualifying for the Grand Final. Ryde can be expected to be challenging for the title again next season.

Illawarra Lions finished fourth in the Club Championship despite the fact that two of their teams were placed well down their respective tables. The 14s did it tough to complete the season in eleventh place and the 17s were to be found in tenth spot. Having a far better season, the 15s claimed the minor premiership and then made it a double with victory in the Grand Final. The 13s claimed fourth position but fell by the wayside after the elimination semi final. Like the Wolves, the Lions will be keen to tap into the rich vein of young players in their region so they can improve on their performance next season.

Mt Pritchard could not be too disappointed about the outcome of this season considering the high number of clubs drawing on the available talent in their district. That two of their teams qualified for the finals should be viewed as a very favourable result for them. The 14s were undefeated in the competition and yet were runners-up and went through to the Grand Final where they were successful. The 17s finished fourth but they dipped out at the elimination semi final stage. On the down side, the Mounties did not fare so well in the 13s and 15s who were both in ninth place. Considering the number of local clubs in higher divisions the club may be hard pressed to attract better quality players to them and therefore may have to settle for the role of developing players for the future.

Mt Druitt Town should not be disappointed about this season. After all they had two teams in the finals series and they have claimed sixth spot



in the Club Championship. Their 14s were minor premiers and they qualified for the Grand Final while their 15s were fifth and made it through to the minor semi final. Unfortunately, the 13s did not do so well, having to settle for 10th position and the 17s ended in 9th place.

Parramatta City would have been hoping for a better season but it was not to be and they had to settle for seventh place overall. Performing best for them were the 13s who claimed third place before falling away at the minor semi final stage. Then came the 17s who may think themselves

unlucky after missing a finals berth by a single point. Both the 14s and 15s had a tougher time of it finishing thirteenth and eleventh respectively. The club will now go back to the drawing board to look for solutions that will bring about better results in 2003.

Dulwich Hill claimed 8th place in the Club Championship and the lion's share of the credit for that must go to their 17s who won the minor premiership and then went on to success in the Grand Final. The 14s went close to a finals berth with their sixth placing but the 13s and 15s were well out of contention, finishing 11th and 12th respectively. A major rethink may be on the cards if the club is to improve on this performance.

MSC Liverpool have not had a good year by their own standards and they are another club who will be desperately searching for answers. They finished ninth overall with both the 13s and 14s in seventh place, the 15ths were tenth and the 17s were eleventh. They will need to work really hard to solve the problems facing them now and in the future.

Hurstville City Crescent Star have secured tenth place in the Club Championship and they couldn't be too upset about that. Their best performed teams were the 13s and 15s, both of whom placed sixth but out of the running for a place in the finals. The 14s settled for tenth and the 17s were thirteenth.

Granville Association would have been hoping for a position higher on the Club Championship than eleventh and they, too, will need to look for ways to improve their lot for the future. All their teams finished well off the pace with the 13s in 8th spot, the 14s in 9th, the 15s were seventh and the 17s claimed the wooden spoon.

Rockdale City secured twelfth place overall and actually had a team in the finals series as their 15s were placed fourth in their league but they dropped off in the elimination semi final. Next best performed were the 14s and 17s who both completed the season in eighth place but the 13s were at the foot of their table and they were the only team in all of Youth League to go through the season without a single win.

Stanmore Hawks had a worse-than-expected season and fell back to thirteenth place in the final analysis. Many people would be surprised at this outcome, not the least of whom will be the club officials who will be looking at a variety of ways of improving on this year. Both the 13s and 14s were to be found at the lower end of their respective tables in twelfth place. Faring better were the 15s who finished eighth and the 17s who were seventh, only two points behind fifth.

Hawkesbury City need to take a long hard look at a player recruitment programme after this season. They would have known from the outset that this would be a difficult year but they would have hoped to avoid the Club Championship wooden spoon. However, when their 13s finished in thirteenth place, their 14s and 15s were both at the foot of the table and the 17s were placed twelfth, it was unavoidable.



All photos from NSW Youth and Cadet League during Season 2002 were shot by NSW Soccer Federation Official Photographer Carlos Furtado. To purchase any images that you have seen throughout the season email info@soccernsw.com.au

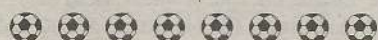


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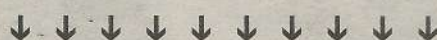
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NATIONAL TALENT IDENTIFICATION CHAMPIONSHIPS

The National Talent Identification Championships kicked off on Saturday 28 September with the Finals on Saturday 5 October 2002 at Melita Stadium, Everley Street, Granville.

Both our U/15 and U/16 Boys Country NSW State Teams competed in this competition. The U/15's bowed out after a tremendous performance throughout the competition and the boys can be proud of their performance.

The U/16's showed that the more they played together the better they performed and showed some nice skill during the competition.

U15 COUNTRY NSW - PLAYERS

B. Boney, A. Watterson, D. Nardi, D. Woodward, M. Costello, D. Saisanid, A. Blacka, M. Andrews, A. Keady, C. Panarello, M. Long, T. Johnson, M. Cox, M. Woodward, A. Small, J. Hale.

U16 COUNTRY NSW - PLAYERS

B. Crane, J. Lando, J. Blunn, J. Butcher, S. Evennett, J. Heath, M. Grant, C. Price, R. Roche, J. Gilmore, W. Marwick, M. Simon, P. Quinn, A. Yule, D. Manca, M. Cox.

Congratulations to all the boys, coaches, managers and a special thank you to all the parents for their support.



CNSW U15 Country Boys



CNSW U16 Country Boys

CLUB OF THE WEEK

CHULLORA WOLVES SOCCER CLUB INC

Established: 1967
Home ground: Lockwood Park, Chullora.
Club colours: Black and Gold.
Club motto: "Friendship in Sport"

The club, formerly known as Bankstown RSL then Chullora Juniors, derived its current club name by holding a competition to find a new name which eventually led to Chullora Wolves Soccer Club Inc being judged the winner.

The park was named after Ron Lockwood and has a full field as well as a mini field.

Through hard work and community spirit the committee added a second storey to the existing clubhouse, which is enjoyed by all members and gives an excellent view of the game.

Over the years the club has shown that it is traditional in its approach to soccer at grass roots level. Chullora is a family orientated club with strong community support and is home to many players of all ages both local and not so local.

Chullora holds an annual end of year carnival, which includes rides, games and until recently fireworks.

A club's success can be measured in many ways but there is no better yardstick than to look at Service Awards, which are issued to individuals for continuous service as a player.

Chullora recently held their senior presentation night and congratulations must be extended to the following players:

10 Years continuous service

Under 16/2's K Ghazi
Over 35's C Caltabiano
Alliance League T Smith
Alliance League J Casonato

15 Years continuous service

Alliance League M Beverly
Alliance League M Davie
Alliance League S Baker

30 YEARS CONTINUOUS SERVICE

Alliance League
ROBERT STRATTON

Mr B Coutts presented Robert Stratton with a framed Chullora jersey, followed by a special surprise when Robert's father Barry presented him with the first trophy Robert had ever won.

Chullora Over 35's

Chullora's Over 35's team is further proof of good old fashion values such as loyalty - what's that I hear you say, loyalty!

Yes, not only loyalty but commitment and camaraderie, many of these boys have been together for the past nine years and although they may not be as young as they used to be (oldest player is 62 years old) you can still find them having a run every Friday night.

Everybody knows that if they show up on Friday they can always kick the ball around and it is not uncommon to see grandfathers, fathers, sons and friends having a good time.



CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS ROUND 5

Round 4 (Semi Finals), held on 6th October, saw 19 Associations represented during the round and culminated in the finalisation of the teams which will compete in the spectacular finals day at Valentine Sports Park, Glenwood on Sunday 20th October.

Teams from Under 10 to Over 35's will battle it out from 8.30 am with the final game scheduled to kick off at 2.45 pm. During the day, action photos will be available for purchase from Instant Photos Australia.

The Soccer Wearhouse will again be open in Lecture Room 3 where you can purchase your Champion of Champion T-shirts and caps along with many other soccer items, all at specially reduced prices on the day. The day will conclude with the presentation of awards by age groups.

The Champion of Champions results, draw and ground listing is available on-line at www.nswasf.com.au
All enquiries phone (02) 9629 2833 during business hours.

CLUB CHALLENGE

The article about Chullora Wolves Soccer Club gives the NSW Amateur Soccer Federation great heart in the knowledge that traditions are still encouraged and that records are continually created and broken.

We would like to hear your stories involving long serving players, club traditions, oldest player, longest serving committee member anything which you feel is worthy of special mention in future editions of Soccer Weekly. Send your stories by fax to (02) 9629 1051 or e-mail to "nswasf@nswasf.com.au".

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ITALIAN SERIE A

ITALIAN AFFAIR

By Joe Russo

The Emilia Romagna region in Northern Italy is generally regarded as one of Italy's wealthiest regions; fine food, great wine, job opportunities and great universities.

It is the region that gave the world spaghetti bolognese, Parmesan cheese, Lambrusco wine, the Ferrari car and Guglielmo Marconi, who was one of the region's famous citizens.

Today the region is home to four Serie A clubs, namely Bologna, Parma, Modena and Piacenza. Never in the history of the Serie A have all four of these teams been in Italy's top division at one time.

It is along a two thousand year old road which was opened in 187 B.C. by the Romans, the via Emilia, that all four of these places can be found. They are on a stretch of about 140 kilometres between them.

Parma are of course the most successful of these teams. They were first promoted to the Serie in 1990/91 and haven't looked back since. Two UEFA Cups, a Cup Winners' Cup, two Italian Cups and a European Super Cup, make up their trophy cabinet.

Last year they were disappointing but they look a lot better this time around. Their best performance in the Serie A was in 1997 when they were runners up to Juventus.

Under the guidance of new coach Cesare Prandelli and Technical Director, Arrigo Sacchi, they should have a fairly good season, despite losing defender Fabio Cannavaro to Inter and striker Marco Di Vaio to Juventus.

Bologna, the capital of the region, are a very proud old club that was founded in 1909. They are seven time winners of the league title (Scudetto) but the most recent was in 1964.

In 1982, for the first time ever, they were relegated to the Serie B. A year later they were further relegated to the Third Division but they climbed back a year later.

In 1988 they were back in the Serie A only to be relegated again in 1991. In 1993 they dropped to the Third Division where they remained for two more years. However, they climbed back to the Serie A in 1996 and have remained there ever since.

Bologna, under coach Francesco Guidolin, certainly don't expect the dark days of the early 90's to return. They are looking good so far and a mid table finish can be expected.

Piacenza, under the guidance of new coach, the relatively unknown Andrea Agostinelli, are holding their own as well.

They are an old club (founded in 1919) who first entered the Serie A in 1995. Except for one year, 2000/01, when they were relegated, they have been a Serie A regular.

In their early days they won a lot of admiration because they refused to buy foreign players. However, the Italians-only team couldn't last in the competitive world of top Italian football.

Piacenza will never set the world on fire but they do have one of the best goal poachers around. Dario Hubner, the 35 year old striker, was the Serie A's leading goal scorer last year.

Hubner is an amazing player and, at one stage, some even suggested that he should be taken to the World Cup in Korea/Japan as part of the Azzurri team. It wasn't to be but that certainly didn't stop Hubner from picking up this season where he left off last season.

Modena, after nearly a forty year absence, are back in the Serie A. They are the real minnows of this league but already have an away win over Roma and a home win over Torino to their credit.

Modena is about 30 kilometres from Bologna but is more famous as the home (along with Maranello) of the Ferrari car. However, it is football, rather than motor racing, which is currently talk of the town.

Their home ground, the Stadio Alberto Braglia, is only marginally bigger than say Marconi Stadium here in Sydney. In fact the official capacity of the Braglia Stadium is just 13,900 - hardly enough when the giants such as Juventus, Inter, Lazio, Roma and AC Milan are in town.

The current star for Modena is their 21 year old striker Giuseppe Sculli. He is their leading goal scorer. A relatively unknown who hails from Calabria in Southern Italy, Sculli is a former Juventus junior.

So with Parma, Bologna, Piacenza and Parma there is certainly one region of Italy that can claim to be the most successful soccer region of Italy. Good luck to all those teams as together they are a real fairy tale.

AC MILAN 6 TORINO 0

Filippo Inzaghi continued his impressive scoring streak as AC Milan swept to a 6-0 Serie A victory over struggling Torino.

The 29-year-old striker took his tally to 15 goals in nine games with a hat-trick to floor the Turin side, who had Cristiano Lucarelli sent off for dissent in the dying minutes.

Carlo Ancelotti's side were 3-0 up by the break thanks to a penalty from Andrea Pirlo, Inzaghi's first strike and a fine solo goal from Serghinho.

Inzaghi completed his triple with a header and a close-range effort either side of his team's fifth goal, when Rui Costa's 84th-minute cross took a deflection off Torino defender Stefano Fattori and found its way into the net.

PIACENZA 1 INTER 4

The victory puts Milan on ten points, two behind leaders Internazionale, who maintained their 100 per cent record with a 4-1 win at Piacenza.

Luigi Di Biagio opened the scoring, heading in a 36th-minute corner, and grabbed his second six minutes into the second half following a neat exchange with Alvaro Recoba.

After Piacenza's Dario Hubner was sent off for dissent, Recoba added the third goal himself, breaking down the right and applying a 69th-minute finish.

Enzo Maresca pulled a goal back for the ten men, but Hernan Crespo restored the three-goal advantage



Gianluca Comotto of Torino holds off AC Milan's Kakha Kaladze.

five minutes from time with a header from Recoba's cross.

JUVENTUS 1 COMO 1

Meanwhile, Juventus needed an 88th-minute equaliser from substitute Marcelo Zalayeta to snatch a 1-1 draw at home to Como.

The Italian champions looked set for a shock defeat after Juventus

old boy Fabio Pecchia had put winless Como ahead midway through the second half, but Uruguayan Zalayeta saved their blushes by nodding in Cristian Zenoni's cross.

CHIEVO 2 MODENA 0

Chievo have pulled away from the bottom four with a 2-0 win at home to Modena thanks to a first half strike from Franceschini and Corini's second half penalty.

PARMA 2 PERUGIA 2

A second half double from Giovanni Tedesco earned Perugia a 2-2 draw at Parma after the home side had led 2-0 through Adrian Mutu and Massimo Donati.

ATALANTA 0 LAZIO 1

Rodriguez Cesar netted the only goal of the game as Lazio claimed their second win of the season at Atalanta.

Cesar fired Dejan Stankovic's cross past former Manchester United goalkeeper Massimo Taibi from a tight angle in the 39th minute to take all three points.

ROMA 4 UDINESE 1

Francesco Totti scored twice as AS Roma won 4-1 against Udinese.

The Italian international striker scored twice in the last ten minutes at the Stadio Olimpico to pile on



Francesco Totti scored twice in Roma's easy win over Udinese.

However, Roma moved up a gear in the later stages of the game, taking the lead again through Argentinian striker Gabriel Batistuta after 78 minutes.

Totti then came into his own, scoring Roma's third five minutes later from an Emerson through-ball before completing the rout with a shot on the turn in the final minute.

REGGINA 2 BRESCIA 2

A Roberto Baggio penalty could not secure Brescia a win as they drew 2-2 at Reggina.

The former Internazionale FC, AC Milan and Juventus scored from the spot after 45 minutes to put the visitors ahead at the Oreste Granillo stadium, only for Japanese midfielder player Shunsuke Nakamura saved the day for the home side, scoring the equaliser with ten minutes to go.

Ghanaian midfielder player Stephen Appiah had opened the scoring for the visitors after eleven minutes, but Reggina got back on level terms with three minutes of

FIXTURES October 20, 2002

Atalanta v AC Milan
Bologna v Brescia
Como v Piacenza
Empoli v Roma
Inter Milan v Juventus
Lazio v Perugia
Modena v Parma
Torino v Chievo
Verona
Udinese v Reggina

Reggina 2 Brescia 2, AS Roma 4 Udinese 1, AC Milan 6 Torino 0, Chievo 0 Modena 0, Empoli 0 Bologna 0, Juventus 1 Como 1, Parma 2 Perugia 2, Piacenza 1 Inter Milan 4, Atalanta 0 Lazio 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Inter	4	4	0	0	9	3	12
2. Milan	4	3	1	0	13	1	10
3. Juventus	4	2	2	0	8	3	8
4. Bologna	4	2	2	0	5	3	8
5. Empoli	4	2	1	1	5	3	7
6. Lazio	4	2	1	1	5	4	7
7. Roma	4	2	0	2	9	7	6
8. Parma	4	1	3	0	7	5	6
9. Chievo	4	2	0	2	7	6	6
10. Piacenza	4	2	0	2	5	6	6
11. Modena	4	2	0	2	4	7	6
12. Brescia	4	1	1	2	7	8	4
13. Perugia	4	1	1	2	5	8	4
14. Udinese	4	1	1	2	3	7	4
15. Reggina	4	0	2	2	4	7	2
16. Como	4	0	2	2	2	6	2
17. Atalanta	4	0	1	3	2	7	1
18. Torino	4	0	0	4	1	10	0



ENGLISH



An English Odyssey

By Stuart Jones

Welcome to another week of the weird and the wonderful in England. Sad news this week that Fulham Club captain Chris Coleman has been forced to quit football. Coleman was in a car accident a couple of years back and has finally conceded he won't make it back out on the pitch. His coach has offered him a position on the coaching staff which he has accepted. Coleman played 32 times for Wales and also played for Swansea, Crystal Palace and Blackburn.

I wonder what the sickly parrot would do if he did not have the internet for his articles? Still he gets paid by a leading Sunday paper to put stories into his own unique style so good luck to him.

It is funny how in soccer in general over the last couple of years so many Australian commentators have become experts on the English game. Ask them a few questions though (like who won the League Cup in 1969, who won the FA Cup in 1981 and who won the league in 1992) and they would struggle. PS Answers Swindon, Tottenham, and Leeds.

Sunderland boss Peter Reid had a bit of relief from the critics when his side won 1-0 in the league and then followed up with a 7-0 thrashing of Cambridge. It would have been the biggest victory of the week had Gary McAllister's Coventry side not come out the next night and defeated Rushden and Diamonds 8-0! Other notable results were Crystal Palace's 7-0 win over Cheltenham and Southampton's 6-1 triumph over Tranmere. There were also eight goals at Rotherham v Wolves but these were shared, the home team going through on penalties 4-2.

Bad news for Walsall with David Zdrilic out of action with a calf injury for anything up to six weeks. His boss is Colin Lee who once worked alongside Aussie Mick Hickman at Leicester and Wolves and seems to like the Aussie flavour with Steve Corica also at the Bescot Stadium. Binby was subbed in the 90th minute in Walsall's Worthington Cup win at Nottingham Forest recently. Talking of an Aussie flavour Oldham were rumoured to have made a bid to take Danny Allsopp from Notts County. Perhaps Les Pogliacomi needs a friend, especially with Tom Pondeljak returning to Australia.

Nice note for Everton this week with Wayne Rooney becoming the youngest player to score for them. At 16 he was 153 days younger than Tommy Lawton was when he scored for Everton way back in February 1937. Rooney did not stop there as just six minutes later he doubled his tally.

In a followup to one of last weeks stories, QPR has rejected an approach by Israel to play their Euro 2004 qualifier against Cyprus at Loftus Road. With Fulham already ground sharing it was thought the ground would have too many games being played on it in too short a period.

Nice quote from Steve Claridge this week that Millwall were too good to go down. We aint ten weeks in Steve the R word should not even be being mentioned! And you know that those clubs who say they are too good to go down have the tendency to suffer the same fate as managers who get the vote of confidence!

Leicester manager Micky Adams picked up the manager of the month award for Division One. The other two division's awards were won by Iain Dowie of Oldham and Wrexham's Denis Smith. All three clubs are nearing the top of their tables.

What did I say last week about Man Utd making money while the others go broke? The papers around the world this week advertised United's amazing profit figures. Not bad for a side that failed to win anything last year and a club still owed 12 million pounds for Jaap Stam's move to Lazio. (The money may be forthcoming from the Rome club - come now that Nesta has moved from Lazio to AC Milan for 20 million pounds.) Derby on the other hand are so poor that boss John Gregory paid for his sides hotel bill from his own pocket after their match at Rotherham in early September. Leeds manager Terry Venables has warned that due to financial constraints the future may be difficult for Yorkshire fans as well.

Macclesfield Town have had a very mixed start to the season and have lost their last two games. The teams boss is Dave Moss and he has currently got 11 fit players to choose from - which does not make much of a choice really. The club started in the 1800s as a Rugby club and it was not until 1874 that they played football. In 1891 the club moved to their current home of Moss Rose. In 1897 the club was declared bankrupt. Hallfield FC took over playing at Moss Rose and in 1899 they became Macclesfield FC. They mainly played in the Manchester Leagues. In 1936 the club almost went broke again but just managed to get enough money to survive. In 1946 the present Limited Company was formed and the club played in the Cheshire League. In 1960 the club made the first round proper of the FA Cup for the very first time - losing 7-2 to Southport. The club moved through the non league ranks and were a solid performer in the Conference. In 1994/95 they won the title but were not admitted into the league. A year later they were runners up to Stevenage but won the FA Trophy at Wembley over Northwich. They again won the Conference in 1996/97 and this time there were no ground criteria problems and the club entered the football league for the first time. They went on to win promotion out of the third division at the first attempt losing not one home match and drawing only four of 23. They were relegated the following year and have remained mid table in the third division over the last couple of seasons. Moss Rose has a capacity of 6335, of which 2599 are seats for the Silkmen faithful.

For those who think I have forgotten, this week I remembered my Mum's advice that if you have not got anything good to say don't say anything. So for this week only to all you Tottenham fans out there Tottenham are (lets face it Macclesfield were more interesting)

Until next time have fun and keep loving the game.

Middlesbrough cut the gap on second-placed Liverpool to one point in the Barclaycard Premiership with a 2-0 win over Bolton.

Ugo Ehiogu nodded home from a corner in the 23rd minute against Bolton to give third-placed Boro the lead at the Riverside Stadium.

Cameroon midfielder Geremi made it 2-0 for Steve McClaren's side midway through the second half with a shot from the edge of the area after Alen Boksic teed him up.

Newcastle captain Alan Shearer overturned an unlikely West Brom lead to help his side climb to sixth with their third-successive Premiership win.

The Baggies led through Slovakian wing-back Igor Balis, who just beat Shay Given with a drilled shot in the 27th minute.

But Shearer drilled in from an indirect free-kick just before the half-time whistle blew to leave honours even before volleying in a second in the 69th minute.

Southampton took the lead after 64 seconds against Manchester City at St Mary's Stadium when Brett Ormerod headed in Wayne Bridge's cross from the left, having hit a hat-trick in midweek for Saints.

The lead could have been at least trebled had Peter Schmeichel not rolled back the years to produce save after save to keep the rampant home side at bay.

The Dane could not stem the tide forever though and Ormerod, who began his career with Accrington Stanley, made it 2-0 with two minutes to go to half-time.

The home side's onslaught should have been rewarded by more goals in the second half but they could not break through again and Kevin Keegan's side got away very lightly with a 2-0 defeat.

Marian Pahars was sent off towards the end for Southampton when he received his second yellow card for what referee Matt Messias thought was a dive.

A brace from Stern John helped Birmingham to a 2-1 success at rock-bottom West Ham and secured their first-ever away win in the Premiership.

The Trinidad & Tobago striker, who registered a hat-trick against the Hammers' east London neighbours Leyton Orient in midweek, beat former Blues defender Gary Breen and caught David James out at his near post in the fourth minute to open the scoring.

But Glenn Roeder's side equalised after 16 minutes when a Birmingham attack broke down and the ball was fed into Joe Cole by Paolo di Canio, and the young England midfielder beat Nico Vaesen with a neat finish to make it 1-1.

However, Steve Bruce's men bounced back and regained the lead through John, who scored his fifth goal of the week to make it 2-1 with two minutes to go to the break to



Robbie Keane of Spurs scores during the FA Barclaycard Premiership game between Blackburn Rovers and Tottenham Hotspur.

leave West Ham still looking for their first home win of the season.

Arsenal remain top of the Barclaycard Premiership after putting Sunderland to the sword with a polished display at Highbury.

The Gunners won 3-1 and were three goals ahead by half-time, Kanu scoring twice in the first 10 minutes and Patrick Vieira netting before the interval.

Sunderland improved in the second half and were rewarded by a consolation goal by Jody Craddock, but Arsenal spent most of the half toying with their opponents, who remain one place outside the relegation zone.

The result meant Arsenal maintained their unbeaten record in the Premiership, but Liverpool's 1-0 win at home to Chelsea kept them two points behind Arsene Wenger's side.

The Reds looked as though they could not break through the Chelsea rearguard, with Carlo Cudicini producing a magnificent save to tip a 30-yard drive from Steven Gerrard on to the crossbar.

But in the final minute of normal time Michael Owen tapped in from close range after Emile Heskey's shot had bounced out off the post.

A mishit effort from Jamie Redknapp helped Tottenham climb to fourth in the table with a 2-1 win at Blackburn.

Robbie Keane had given Spurs the lead with a spectacular first-half strike but Norwegian striker Egil Ostensstad appeared to have salvaged a point for Blackburn with his 59th-minute goal.

FIXTURES

SATURDAY 19th October

Blackburn v Newcastle
Everton v Arsenal
Fulham v Man Utd
Leeds v Liverpool
Man City v Chelsea
Sunderland v West Ham
West Brom v Birmingham

SUNDAY 20th October

Charlton v Middlesbrough
Tottenham v Bolton

MONDAY 21st October

Aston Villa v Southampton

WEDNESDAY 23rd October

Fulham v West Ham

But Redknapp grabbed all three points for Glenn Hoddle's men in the 89th minute when his sliced shot deceived Rovers goalkeeper Brad Friedel and drifted into the net.

England strike rivals Darius Vassell and Alan Smith did themselves no favours with Sven-Goran Eriksson in attendance as Aston Villa and Leeds had to settle for a point apiece in a drab goalless draw at Villa Park.

Fulham overcame Charlton 1-0 at Loftus Road to keep Alan Curbishley's side in the relegation zone.

Argentinian striker Facundo Sava scored the only goal in the 36th minute, following up after Dean Kiely had only parried Steed Malbranque's long-range effort.

PREMIER LEAGUE

TABLES

Middlesbrough 2 Bolton W 0, Newcastle U. 2 West Bromwich A. 1, Southampton 2 Manchester C. 0, West Ham U. 1 Birmingham C. 2, Fulham 1 Charlton Athletic 0, Arsenal 3 Sunderland 1, Aston Villa 0 Leeds U. 0, Blackburn R. 1 Tottenham H. 2, Liverpool 1 Chelsea 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Arsenal	9	7	2	0	24	9	23
2 Liverpool	9	6	3	0	19	8	21
3 Middlesbrough	9	5	2	2	13	5	17
4 Tottenham	9	5	1	3	13	13	16
5 Fulham	8	4	2	2	13	8	14
6 Man. United	8	4	2	2	9	6	14
7 Chelsea	9	3	4	2	15	12	13
8 Newcastle	8	4	1	3	12	9	13
9 Leeds	9	4	1	4	11	9	13
10 Blackburn	9	3	3	3	11	10	12
11 Everton	8	3	2	3	11	11	11
12 Birmingham	9	3	2	4	10	11	11
13 Southampton	9	2	4	3	6	8	10
14 Villa	9	3	1	5	6	9	10
15 West Brom	9	3	0	6	7	15	9
16 Man. City	9	2	2	5	7	14	8
17 Sunderland	9	2	2	5	4	13	8
18 Bolton	8	2	1	5	8	14	7
19 Charlton	9	2	1	6	7	14	7
20 West Ham	8	1	2	5	8	16	5

FIRST DIVISION

Bradford C. 1 Preston North End 1, Derby County 2 Walsall 2, Gillingham 0 Coventry C. 2, Grimsby T. 0 Reading 3, Millwall 1 Nottingham F. 2, Rotherham U. 2 Portsmouth 3, Sheffield W. 1 Burnley 3, Stoke C. 1 Crystal Palace 1, Watford 1 Brighton & Hove A. 0, Wolverhampton W. 1 Sheffield U. 3, Norwich C. 0 Leicester C. 0, Wimbledon 0 Ipswich T. 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Portsmouth	12	10	1	1	28	10	31
2. Leicester	12	8	3	1	19	10	27
3. Norwich	12	7	4	1	21	7	25
4. Nottingham	12	7	2	3	24	13	23
5. Sheffield U	12	6	3	3	18	14	21
6. Coventry	12	6	3	3	17	15	21
7. Watford	12	6	3	3	18	18	21
8. Rotherham	12	5	3	4	22	17	18
9. Reading	12	5	2	5	14	12	17
10. Derby	12	5	1	6	15	17	16
11. Burnley	11	4	3	4	13	17	15
12. Bradford	12	3	6	3	13	17	15
13. Gillingham	12	4	3	5	13	18	15
14. Wolverhampton	11	4	2	5	21	16	14
15. Stoke	12	3	5	4	15	17	14
16. Walsall	12	4	2	6	15	18	14
17. Crystal P	12	2	7	3	15	15	13
18. Preston	12	2	7	3	15	18	13
19. Ipswich	9	3	3	3	13	8	12
20. Millwall	12	3	3	6	11	21	12
21. Wimbledon	12	3	1	8	10	18	10
22. Sheffield W	12	1	6	5	10	17	9
23. Grimsby	11	1	2	8	6	21	5
24. Brighton	12	1	1	10	9	21	4

SECOND DIVISION

Blackpool 3 Cheltenham 1, Brentford 1 Barnsley 2, Bristol C. 4 Chesterfield 0, Colchester U. 0 Wycombe W. 1, Crewe Alexandra 2 Queens Park R. 0, Huddersfield T. 2 Port Vale 2, Mansfield T. 6 Tranmere R. 1, Notts County 2 Peterborough U. 2, Plymouth Argyle 0 Northampton T. 0, Stockport County 2 Luton T. 3, Swindon T. 0 Oldham Athletic 1, Wigan Athletic 2 Cardiff C. 2.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Oldham	12	8	2	2	20	6	26
2. Cardiff	12	7	4	1	19	11	25
3. Wigan	12	7	3	2	21	9	24
4. Queens PR	12	7	2	3	23	12	23
5. Crewe	12	6	4	2	17	8	22
6. Bristol C	12	7	0	5	21	13	21
7. Blackpool	12	6	3	3	18	11	21
8. Chesterfield	12	6	2	4	14	15	20
9. Brentford	12	5	3	4	13	15	18
10. Plymouth	12	4	4	4	17	17	16
11. Northampton	12	4	4	4	11	14	16
12. Port Vale	12	5	1	6	17	21	16
13. Tranmere	12	5	1	6	13	21	16
14. Luton	12	4	3	5	21	20	15
15. Wycombe	12	4	3	5	16	18	15
16. Barnsley	12	4	3	5	13	18	15
17. Stockport	11	4	2	5	12	10	14
18. Peterborough	11	3	3	5	14	13	12
19. Notts County	12	2	6	4	17	17	12
20. Colchester	12	3	2	7	6	14	11
21. Swindon	12	3	1	8	11	18	10
22. Huddersfield	12	2	4	6	7	17	10
23. Mansfield	12	3	1	8	19	35	10
24. Cheltenham	12	2	3	7	12	19	9

WORLD

Spanish Primera Liga

Ronaldo turned on the style in his long-awaited Real Madrid debut as he came off the bench to score twice in the European champions' 5-2 home Primera División win against Deportivo Alavés.

His side already led 2-1 by the time of the Brazilian's 64th-minute introduction, Zinedine Zidane's spectacular first-minute opener and Luis Figo's penalty having been pegged back by Magno. But once Ronaldo was on he took over, scoring after a cross from the left within a minute of his arrival, and adding a second a quarter-hour later, after a fine pass from Steve McManaman. In between those goals, Figo had made it 4-1, and Ivan Alonso scored a late consolation.

Madrid could now go top if they win their delayed game against Real Betis on Wednesday, although the Seville side lead 1-0 with 43 minutes gone in a game halted due to floodlight failure.

Betis themselves were held 1-1 at Sevilla. Joaquín gave Betis the lead in the derby on 17 minutes, but his team-mate Juanito

scored an own goal 21 minutes from the end to ensure a deserved point for Sevilla.

Celta Vigo are back at the top after overhauling Valencia with a 1-0 win at the Mestalla stadium. Brazilian midfielder Vagner scored in added time to ensure his side replaced their hosts in

first place, Valencia dropping to fifth.

Real Sociedad are second, level on points with Celta, as they beat Real Valladolid 2-1, all three goals coming in a six-minute second-half spell. Nihat Kahveci and Valeri Karpin scored on 65 and 68 minutes for

Sociedad, with Gonzalo Colosa responding for the visitors.

Deportivo La Coruña slipped to sixth on nine points after a surprise 2-0 defeat at home to Real Racing Club Santander. Javi Guerrero scored once in each half to delight the Santander fans.

Barcelona were held 2-2 at home by Atlético Osasuna - a match the visitors twice led in the first half. Gerardo Rivero's

second-minute goal was cancelled out by Thiago Motta, while Patrick Kluivert levelled again on the stroke of half-time, seconds after Leonel

Mallorca, while Málaga claimed third place by beating Club Atlético de Madrid 3-1. Rayo Vallecano came from two goals behind to draw 2-2 with Villarreal CF, who remain without a win.



Real Madrid Ronaldo (left) celebrates his goals against Alavés.

FIXTURES OCTOBER 20, 2002

Athletic Bilbao v Malaga
Atletico Madrid v Valencia
CD Alaves v Real Sociedad
Celta Vigo v Rayo Vallecano
Espanyol v Recreativo Huelva
Osasuna v Sevilla
Racing Santander v Real Madrid
Real Betis v Mallorca
Valladolid v Barcelona
Villarreal v D Coruna

Recreativo Huelva 1 Athletic Bilbao 2, Malaga 3 Atletico Madrid 1, Real Madrid 5 Deportivo Alaves 2, Real Sociedad 2 Valladolid 1, Barcelona 2 b Osasuna 2, Deportivo La Coruna 0 Racing Santander 2, Mallorca 2 Espanyol 0, Rayo Vallecano 2 Villarreal 2, Valencia 0 Celta de Vigo 1, Sevilla 1 Real Betis 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Celta	5	4	1	0	10	3	13
2. R.Sociedad	5	4	1	0	15	9	13
3. Malaga	5	3	2	0	12	8	11
4. R.Madrid	4	3	1	0	12	4	10
5. Valencia	5	3	1	1	10	3	10
6. Deportivo	5	3	0	2	8	8	9
7. Betis	4	2	2	0	11	6	8
8. Barcelona	5	2	2	1	8	7	8
9. Racing	5	2	1	2	5	5	7
10. Valladolid	5	2	1	2	4	5	7
11. At.Madrid	5	1	3	1	9	7	6
12. Mallorca	5	2	0	3	5	9	6
13. R.Vallecano	5	1	2	2	8	10	5
14. Sevilla	5	0	4	1	3	4	4
15. Alaves	5	1	1	3	6	10	4
16. Athletic	5	1	1	3	5	10	4
17. Villarreal	5	0	3	2	5	7	3
18. Osasuna	5	0	2	3	8	13	2
19. Rec de Huelva	5	0	1	4	4	12	1
20. Espanyol	5	0	1	4	1	9	1

German Bundesliga

Bundesliga highfliers Werder Bremen were held to a goalless draw by Hansa Rostock while doubles from Ioan Viorel Ganea and Kevin Kuranyi gave Stuttgart the points against 1860 Munich.

Werder Bremen blew the chance to return to second place on the table as they wasted numerous chances against Hansa Rostock in a match that ended goalless.

The opening exchanges were

remarkable only for the number of errors, with the sides surprisingly nervous considering their good starts to the season.

Frank Verlaet did have great chance to put Bremen ahead in the 17th minute, but he headed wide when unmarked at the far post.

Ailton also wasted a good opening for the home side, blasting over the bar from 18 yards after playing a one-two with Kristian Lisztes at the end of an energetic move.

Bremen's tense play surfaced

at the other end just before half-time as hesitancy in defence gave Andreas Jakobsson a chance that he failed to take.

The opportunities continued to fall to the hosts with Lisztes and Ailton both failing to beat Rostock goalkeeper Mathias Schober with shots.

Bremen continued to pile the pressure on with Angelos Charisteas driving the ball into the side netting in the 80th minute.

Another chance fell to Charisteas three minutes later but he headed wide from eight yards.

Ganea and Kuranyi both scored twice as Stuttgart brought their European form back home with a resounding victory over 1860 Munich.

Stuttgart secured their place in the second round of the UEFA Cup with a 4-1 second leg win over Ventspils in midweek, and there was no let up in the Bundesliga here.

The successive wins are a welcome break from their off-field problems.

Players are still waiting for bonus payments for their win in the UEFA Cup but the club have said things are only likely to

improve if they make it past the third round.

But those problems still seemed to be bothering them as Markus Schroth gave 1860 a surprise lead in the 23rd minute.

Despite 1860 being second best in the opening exchanges, a defensive error from Stuttgart let in Benjamin Lauth, who crossed for Schroth to powerfully head home. Simon Jentzsch kept 1860

ahead when he made a terrific save to deny Krassimir Balakov soon after.

Jentzsch continued his heroics in the 36th minute, saving a penalty from Zvonimir Soldo.

The 1860 shot-stopper was eventually beaten by Kuranyi when he headed in a cross from Ganea, who was introduced into the action at half-time.

Kuranyi put

Stuttgart ahead in the 48th minute with almost a carbon copy of the first, with Jochen Seitz this time providing the centre.

Ganea took the hosts further clear two minutes later and sealed a great second-half goalscoring performance with the fourth in injury time.



Werder Bremen's Tim Borowski (left) challenges Marcus Lantz of Hansa Rostock.

FIXTURES OCTOBER 19, 2002

1860 Munich v Schalke
Bayer Leverkusen v FC Kaiserslautern
Borussia Dortmund v Arminia Bielefeld
Cottbus v Hertha Berlin
Hamburg v Borussia M'gladbach
Hannover 96 v Werder Bremen
Hansa Rostock v Bayern Munich

SUNDAY 20th October
Nurnberg v VfB Stuttgart
VfL Bochum v Wolfsburg

Bayern Munich 4 Bochum 1, Hannover 0 Borussia Dortmund 3, Hertha BSC 2 Nurnberg 1, Kaiserslautern 4 Energie Cottbus 0, Monchengladbach 3 Arminia Bielefeld 0, Schalke 3 Hamburger SV 0, Wolfsburg 2 Bayer Leverkusen 0, Stuttgart 4 Munich 1860 1, Werder Bremen 0 Hansa Rostock 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. B.München	8	6	1	1	22	8	19
2. Dortmund	8	4	4	0	12	5	16
3. Werder Bremen	8	5	1	2	14	11	16
4. Schalke	8	4	3	1	12	6	15
5. Hansa Rostock	8	4	1	3	11	6	13
6. Wolfsburg	8	4	1	3	8	7	13
7. Hertha	8	3	3	2	9	7	12
8. M.gladbach	8	3	2	3	10	6	11
9. Bochum	8	3	2	3	16	14	11
10. 1860 München	8	3	2	3	11	12	11
11. Stuttgart	8	2	4	2	14	11	10
12. Bielefeld	8	3	1	4	9	15	10
13. Nürnberg	8	3	0	5	10	14	9
14. Hamburger SV	8	3	0	5	9	15	9
15. Leverkusen	8	2	2	4	12	16	8
16. Hannover	8	2	1	5	11	18	7
17. Kaiserslautern	8	1	3	4	7	11	6
18. Cottbus	8	1	1	6	5	20	4



DUTCH EREDIVISIE



Jari Litmanen scored his first goal since rejoining Ajax to help the Amsterdam club to a 2-1 away victory over Eredivisie rivals Feyenoord on Sunday.

Litmanen, who had spells at Barcelona and Liverpool before moving back to the Amsterdam ArenA in August, added to Wamberto's opener to double Ajax's lead two minutes before half-time.

Although Pierre van Hooijdonk pulled a goal back for Feyenoord after the break, it was not enough to prevent the Dutch champions returning to the top of the table.

Alje Schut's last-minute equaliser against Roosendaal

helped Utrecht get over their midweek UEFA Cup exit at the hands of Legia Warszawa. Dirk Kujit had put the home side ahead on 40 minutes, but after Geert Den Ouden and Edwin De Graaf put Roosendaal into the lead, the stage was set for Schut to salvage a point.

Vitesse followed up their midweek UEFA Cup success against Rapid Bucuresti with a comfortable 3-1 win at AZ Alkmaar. Gert Claessens put Vitesse on their way inside six minutes before Barry Van Galen restored parity on the stroke of half-time, but second-half goals from Matthew Amoah and Nick Hof secured all three points for the visitors.

Meanwhile, Willem II moved

up to fourth despite only managing a point at struggling Heerenveen, but it could have been worse for the visitors had Cedric van der Gun not cancelled out Mika Nurmela's 40th-minute penalty midway through the second half.

A goal from Dennis Rommedahl deep into added time salvaged a 2-2 draw for PSV Eindhoven against NAC Breda when the two sides met on Saturday.

NAC's Orlando Engelaar scored either side of Mateja Kezman's tap-in for PSV, but at the death Rommedahl cut inside from the left to beat goalkeeper Gabor Babos at the near post.

Cairo on target

Elsewhere, Ellery Cairo's late goal was enough for FC Twente to beat De Graafschap 1-0, while Roda JC suffered their first defeat of the season when the lost 3-2 at home to ten-man SC Excelsior, who had Patrick Mtiliga sent off three minutes from time. On Friday, FC Zwolle secured their first away win of the season with a 2-0 triumph against Waalwijk.

The damage was done by half-time thanks to goals from Arjan Boschaart and Albert van der Haar, but Waalwijk's miserable evening was complete when Eddy Putter saw red 11 minutes from time.

NEC Nijmegen 2 FC Groningen 0, RKC Waalwijk 0 FC Zwolle 2, De Graafschap 0 FC Twente Enschede 1, NAC Breda 2 PSV Eindhoven 2, Roda Kerkrade 2 Excelsior Rotterdam 3, Feyenoord Rotterdam 1 Ajax Amsterdam 2, AZ Alkmaar 1 Vitesse Arnhem 3, FC Utrecht 2 RBC Roosendaal 2, SC Heerenveen 1 Willem II Tilburg 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. PSV	7	6	1	0	20	3	19
2. Ajax	7	6	1	0	17	8	19
3. Feyenoord	7	4	1	2	18	10	13
4. Willem II	7	3	3	1	12	6	12
5. Roda JC	7	3	3	1	15	12	12
6. NAC Breda	7	2	5	0	11	7	11
7. NEC	7	3	2	2	11	9	11
8. Vitesse	7	3	1	3	10	7	10
9. Excelsior	7	3	1	3	13	13	10
10. AZ Alkmaar	7	3	1	3	12	15	10
11. RKC Waalwijk	7	3	1	3	10	15	10
12. Utrecht	7	2	3	2	9	8	9
13. RBC Roosendaal	7	2	2	3	12	13	8
14. Zwolle	7	2	2	3	8	12	8
15. Twente	7	1	2	4	8	16	5
16. De Graafschap	7	1	0	6	5	17	3
17. Heerenveen	7	0	2	5	7	16	2
18. Groningen	7	0	1	6	5	16	1



CHAMPIONS LEAGUE REVIEW



MATCHDAY 3 RESULTS

A Auxerre	0	Arsenal	1
A PSV	1	B. Dortmund	3
B Liverpool	5	Spartak Mosc.	0
B Valencia	6	Basle	2
C AEK Athens	3	Real Madrid	3
C Genk	0	Roma	1
D Inter Milan	1	Lyon	2
D Rosenborg	0	Ajax	0
E Feyenoord	0	Dynamo Kiev	0
E Juventus	2	Newcastle	0
F Maccabi		Haifa	

Group A

TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Arsenal	3	3	0	0	7	0	9
Bor. Dortmund	3	2	0	1	5	4	6
Auxerre	3	0	1	2	1	3	1
PSV Eindhoven	3	0	1	2	1	7	1

Group B

TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Valencia	3	3	0	0	11	2	9
Liverpool	3	1	1	1	6	3	4
FC Basle	3	1	1	1	5	7	4
Spartak Moscow	3	0	0	3	0	10	0

Group C

TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Real Madrid	3	2	1	0	12	3	7
Roma	3	1	1	1	3	4	4
AEK Athens	3	0	3	0	3	3	3
Genk	3	0	1	2	0	7	1

Group D

TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Lyon	3	2	0	1	8	3	6
Inter Milan	3	1	1	1	4	4	4
Ajax	3	1	1	1	2	2	4
Rosenborg	3	0	2	1	2	7	2

Group E

TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Juventus	3	2	1	0	8	1	7
Feyenoord	3	1	2	0	2	1	5
Dynamo Kiev	3	1	1	1	2	5	4
Newcastle	3	0	0	3	0	5	0

Group F

TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Manchester Utd	3	3	0	0	11	3	9
Maccabi Haifa	3	1	0	2	5	7	3
Olympiakos	3	1	0	2	6	9	3
Bayer Leverkusen	3	1	0	2	5	8	3

Group G

TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AC Milan	3	3	0	0	8	2	9
Deportivo	3	2	0	1	6	7	6
Bayern Munich	3	0	1	2	4	6	1
Lens	3	0	1	2	3	6	1

Group H

TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Barcelona	3	3	0	0	8	3	9
Galatasaray	3	1	1	1	2	2	4
Club Brugge	3	0	2	1	2	3	2
Lokomotiv	3	0	1	2	1	5	1



EURO 2004



GROUP 1 FIXTURES - 12 October

France	v	Slovenia					
Malta	v	Israel					
16 October							
Israel	v	Cyprus					
Malta	v	France					
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Slovenia	1	1	0	0	3	0	3
France	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Israel	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cyprus	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
Malta	1	0	0	1	0	3	0

GROUP 2 Fixtures - 12 October

Denmark	v	Luxembourg					
Romania	v	Norway					
16 October							
Luxembourg	v	Romania					
Norway	v	Bosnia-Herzegovina					
Teams							
Romania	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Denmark	1	1	0	0	3	0	3
Norway	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Luxembourg	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Bosnia-Herzegovina	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1	0	0	1	0	3	0

GROUP 3 - Fixtures

Moldova	v	Czech Republic
Belarus	v	Austria
Czech Republic	v	Belarus

Austria v Netherlands

Teams	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Netherlands	1	1	0	0	3	0	3
Austria	1	1	0	0	2	0	3
Czech Republic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Moldova	1	0	0	1	0	2	0
Belarus	1	0	0	1	0	3	0

GROUP 4 - Fixtures

Poland	v	Latvia
Sweden	v	Hungary
Hungary	v	San Marino

GROUP 5 - Fixtures

Teams	P	W	D	L	GS	A	Pts
Poland	1	1	0	0	2	0	3
Sweden	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Latvia	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Hungary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
San Marino	1	0	0	1	0	2	0

GROUP 6 - Fixtures

Teams	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Spain	1	1	0	0	2	0	3
Ukraine	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Armenia	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Northern Ireland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Greece	1	0	0	1	0	2	0

GROUP 6 - Fixtures

Spain	v	Northern Ireland
Ukraine	v	Greece
Greece	v	Armenia
Northern Ireland	v	Ukraine

GROUP 7 - Fixtures

Teams	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Spain	1	1	0	0	2	0	3
Ukraine	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Armenia	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Northern Ireland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Greece	1	0	0	1	0	2	0

GROUP 8 - Fixtures

Teams	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Turkey	1	1	0	0	3	0	3
Liechtenstein	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
F.Y.R. Macedonia	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
England	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Slovakia	1	0	0	1	0	3	0

GROUP 9 - Fixtures

Teams	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Italy	1	1	0	0	2	0	3
Wales	1	1	0	0	2	0	3
Yugoslavia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Azerbaijan	1	0	0	1	0	2	0
Finland	1	0	0	1	0	2	0

GROUP 10 - Fixtures

Teams	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Switzerland	1	1	0	0	4	1	3
Russia	1	1	0	0	4	2	3
Albania	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Republic of Ireland	1	0	0	1	2	4	0
Georgia	1	0	0	1	1	4	0

WORLD TABLES

SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE

Glasgow's big guns shared a six-goal thriller which kept Rangers a point clear of Celtic at the top of the Scottish Premier League after a rollercoaster ride at Parkhead.

During a breathtaking 90 minutes Rangers produced a admirable show of courage after a humiliating and tiring UEFA Cup exit to twice take the lead and come from behind against the champions.

Mikel Arteta gave 'Gers the lead in just six minutes and the visitors dominated the first half hour.

But Celtic gradually came back into the game but they needed a brilliant piece of skill from Henrik Larsson to level six minutes before the break.

Larsson swivelled on Momo Sylla's cross and lashed home a left-foot volley.

And when the lethal Larsson headed home a cross after 53 minutes, the Bhoys looked to be marching to victory.

But Ronald De Boer headed home Neil McCann's centre barely 60 seconds later to level at 2-2.

Shota Arveladze must have thought he had won the game for Rangers when he forced defender Ulrik Laursen to knock the ball over keeper Robert Douglas in a six-yard box melee after 75 minutes.

But four minutes later, Sutton lashed home the sixth goal of a thrilling encounter which saw honours shared on the day.

The points were also shared at Almondvale as Livingston and Hearts drew 1-1.

Livingston had gone out of the UEFA Cup in midweek but bounced back quickly and led at half-time through a Mark Wilson strike.

But former Middlesbrough midfielder Phil Stamp earned Hearts a point with the equaliser early in the second half.

Dunfermline striker Stevie Crawford celebrated his recent Scotland call-up with a late double to give the Pars a comfortable 4-1 victory over luckless Partick Thistle.

The visitors trailed 1-0 at half-time and were down to 10 men after the 55th-minute dismissal of David Lilley but fought back to equalise with a Jamie Mitchell penalty.

But the Pars' one-man advantage took its toll and in an exciting second half, a goal from Barry Nicholson and Crawford's double sealed a deserved victory for the home side.

Hibernian managed to keep their run of wins going by taking all three points in a 2-1 win against Dundee United.

The Edinburgh outfit have now won four games in succession - but they were subjected to a nervous last 20 minutes by United.

Dundee left it late to gain a deserved three points in a 2-1 win at home to Kilmarnock.

Killie came out of their shells in the second half and proved more of an attacking force, forcing Dundee to be more positive.

The visitors took the lead through new signing Samuel Boutal, after some superb play from Gary Locke and Steve Fulton.

The home side continued to fight and got the goals their overall play deserved. They scored a superb equaliser through Gavin Rae, who shot past Gordon Marshall from 20-yards and won the match courtesy of a late Fabian Caballero strike.

A determined fightback from Aberdeen saw them beat Motherwell 2-1 at Fir Park. Motherwell had much the better of the first half. But having gone behind to a controversial penalty from James McFadden, the Dons came back with two goals in the second 45 minutes.

One within a minute of the restart from Derek Young changed the game, and then a late winner from former Motherwell player Eric Deloumeaux sealed the fightback.

Ronald de Boer of Rangers celebrates his goal against Celtic.



Ronald de Boer of Rangers celebrates his goal against Celtic.

Dunfermline 4 Partick Thistle 1, FC Dundee 2 Kilmarnock 1, Hibernian 2 Dundee United 1, Motherwell 1 Aberdeen 2, Celtic 3 Rangers 3, Livingston 1 Hearts 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Rangers	10	8	2	0	29	6	26
2. Celtic	10	8	1	1	25	6	25
3. Dunfermline	10	6	0	4	19	19	18
4. Hearts	10	4	5	1	19	11	17
5. Aberdeen	10	4	2	4	13	16	14
6. Dundee FC	10	3	4	3	11	14	13
7. Hibernian	10	4	0	6	13	19	12
8. Kilmarnock	10	3	3	4	9	17	12
9. Motherwell	10	2	3	5	13	16	9
10. Partick Thistle	10	1	5	4	8	15	8
11. Dundee U	10	1	3	6	6	18	6
12. Livingston	10	1	2	7	9	17	5

FRENCH LIGUE 1

Le Championnat's first quarter ended with games which saw Paris Saint-Germain cruise to a very easy 5-0 win over Guingamp, while Auxerre and Bordeaux were stuck to home draws.

Without their promising forwards Djibril Cissé and Olivier Kapo, Auxerre heavily relied on Zimbabwean striker Benjamin Mwaruwari, who opened the scoring in the Abbé Deschamps for Auxerre against Monaco. Shabani Nonda equalized to snatch a draw for ASM.

Bordeaux were equally ill at ease at home versus Sedan. Pauleta's double effort was denied by a brave Sedan team in a match that exposed the Girondins' creative problems in midfield again.

Meanwhile in Paris PSG taught Guingamp a lesson. Even without Ronaldinho and Andre Luiz, PSG were much too strong as they lead 4-0 within the first half hour. Martin Cardetti also got his name on the scoresheet.

Le Championnat newcomers OGC Nice showed they were no fluke on top of the table as they clawed back to the position they occupied thanks to a 2-0 win over Bastia on Saturday night.

Nice sealed their fifth straight success in their Stade du Ray stadium through goals scored by Kaba Diawara and Abdel Cherrad. The French Riviera side are not back on top of the table ahead of Auxerre on goal difference.

Marseille had great expectations before their trip to Lille. They were ousted with a swift 3-0 defeat by the Bulldogs, who are climbing up the table and are now on 13 points. Hector Tapia, Benoit Cheyrou and Phil Brunel scored Lille's goals.

Lyon responded well to their coach Paul Le Guen's plea and snatched a precious away win at the expenses of bottom club Rennes. A Sidney Govou goal gave the French champions three morale-boosting points.

Strasbourg are also on a roll after a difficult start: the Alsations won their third consecutive match against Troyes in la Meinau.

Lens also clinched a much-needed win at Montpellier. Meanwhile Le Havre eased their relegation fears with a 1-0 win over Sochaux, while Nantes fell deeper into crisis with a 1-0 defeat at Ajaccio.



Khalilou Fadiga of Auxerre (left) looks to dispossess AS Monaco's Marcello Gallardo.

Ajaccio 1 Nantes 0, Le Havre 1 Sochaux 0, Lille 3 Marseille 0, Montpellier 0 Lens 2, Nice 2 Bastia 0, Rennes 0 Lyon 1, Strasbourg 2 Troyes 1, Bordeaux 2 Sedan 2, Auxerre 1 Monaco 1, Paris S.G. 5 Guingamp

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Auxerre	10	6	3	1	16	7	21
2. Nice	10	6	2	2	16	5	20
3. PSG	10	4	5	1	16	7	17
4. Monaco	10	5	2	3	15	9	17
5. Marseille	10	5	2	3	13	12	17
6. Sochaux	10	4	4	2	12	9	16
7. Lens	10	4	4	2	9	6	16
8. Strasbourg	10	4	4	2	15	18	16
9. Lyon	10	4	3	3	19	13	15
10. Bordeaux	10	4	3	3	11	8	15
11. Lille	10	3	4	3	9	11	13
12. Guingamp	10	3	3	4	14	16	12
13. Ajaccio	10	3	3	4	8	11	12
14. Bastia	10	3	2	5	10	14	11
15. Sedan	10	2	4	4	12	16	10
16. Nantes	10	3	1	6	10	15	10
17. Le Havre	10	2	4	4	7	13	10
18. Montpellier	10	2	3	5	6	11	9
19. Troyes	10	1	4	5	5	12	7
20. Rennes	10	1	2	7	6	16	5

ALAIN'S CORNER

Lyon scalps Inter Milan



Alain Barataud

Lyon's win this week was testament to my theory that French football today is better than the Calcio. Inter and all their stars have fallen and now, like the Squadra Azzura who have not beaten the French National Team for the past twenty years, the club that's believed to be the best in the world is losing too.

It's good for football to see some changes and hopefully they will continue beyond the year. Italian football will be always here - it's a religion in the country and the Italians will never accept to be one step behind - they will not stop until they are numero uno in the world once again.

For the rest of the French teams, Auxerre lost all chances to access through to the second round after losing at home against the might of England, Arsenal. Auxerre played well however luck evaded Guy Roux's side and stated after the match that, "Arsenal is the best team in the world today." It may be true after their beautiful start this season but now it will be difficult for Auxerre, who needs a miracle to get through. The trumps are currently down for Auxerre and any hope of gaining at least a slight chance of making the next round rests in Highbury in three weeks when the French travel to England - certainly not an easy task.

For Lens it's all over. They have to fight with another giant, Bayern Munich, to take the third spot to qualify for the UEFA Cup. Not easy at all but with two games at home, anything is possible.

This weekend in the French League there were a few surprises beginning with Marseille, who for the second time played without their sweeper and captain, Frank Leboeuf, and ended up losing three-nil at Lille. It seems in Leboeuf's absence; Marseille lost confidence and coach Alain Perrin has to look for a solution as his captain is out for seven weeks. If he wants his team to stay in the top five, he has to find a good enough substitute for Leboeuf.

Nice still are on a good run, winning against Bastia. They are on top, just behind Auxerre, and enjoy being the surprise side after ten rounds. Lyon too has won for the first time away this year at Rennes and week by week show more consistency. Rennes though, last with only five points after ten games, needs to pick up their act quick smart if they are to avoid bottom spot and a possible inclusion into France's second division next season.

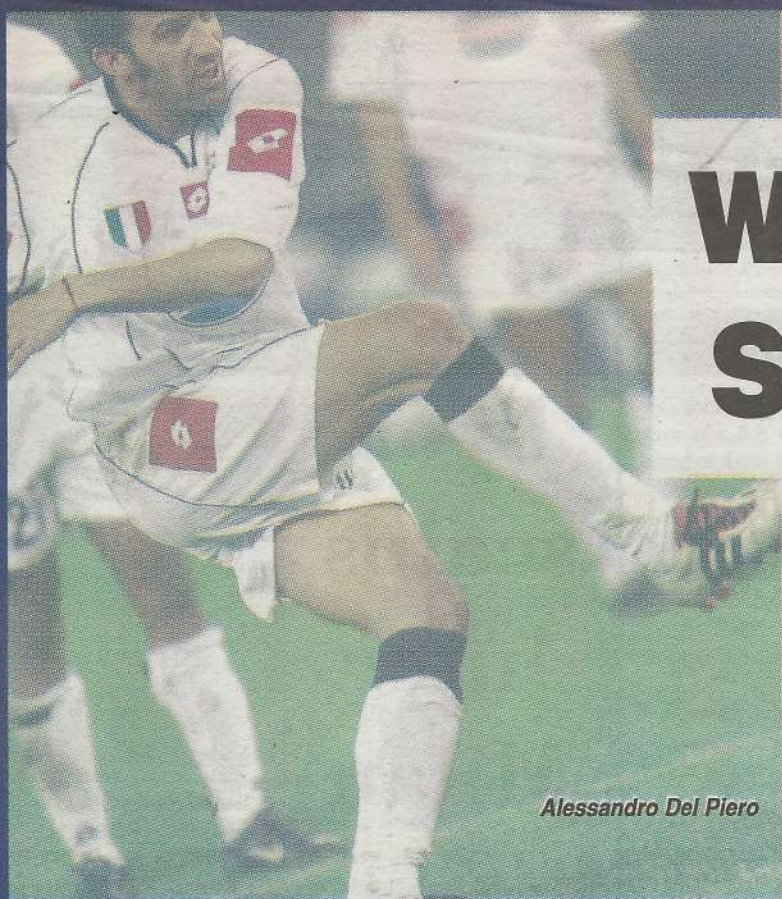
Another surprise after three wins in a row is Strasbourg who opened the season very poorly but have now moved up to seventh position; they want to prove their good form when they play Marseille in two weeks.

Bordeaux, Paris Saint Germain and Monaco are all part of the top ten as well. They are all up for the challenge to upset Auxerre, Marseille and Lyon and break open the French League for the title.

Teams such as Nantes, Troyes, Montpellier and Sedan which all had a good seasons last year find themselves struggling at the bottom of the table. These clubs need to work hard during the two week break so come Christmas time, talk of relegation would be well out of each club's minds.

No games are scheduled for next week as part of international duty, France will take on Slovenia in Paris before playing in Malta four days later. With two wins, France will be halfway from Portugal and will wait out the next game next year without stress. For this game, National coach, Santini, has selected twenty players including two new players - Gallas from Chelsea and Dacourt from Leeds. If France wins both games, they will prove that the World Cup 2002 was only a bad souvenir!!!

WORLD STARS



Alessandro Del Piero



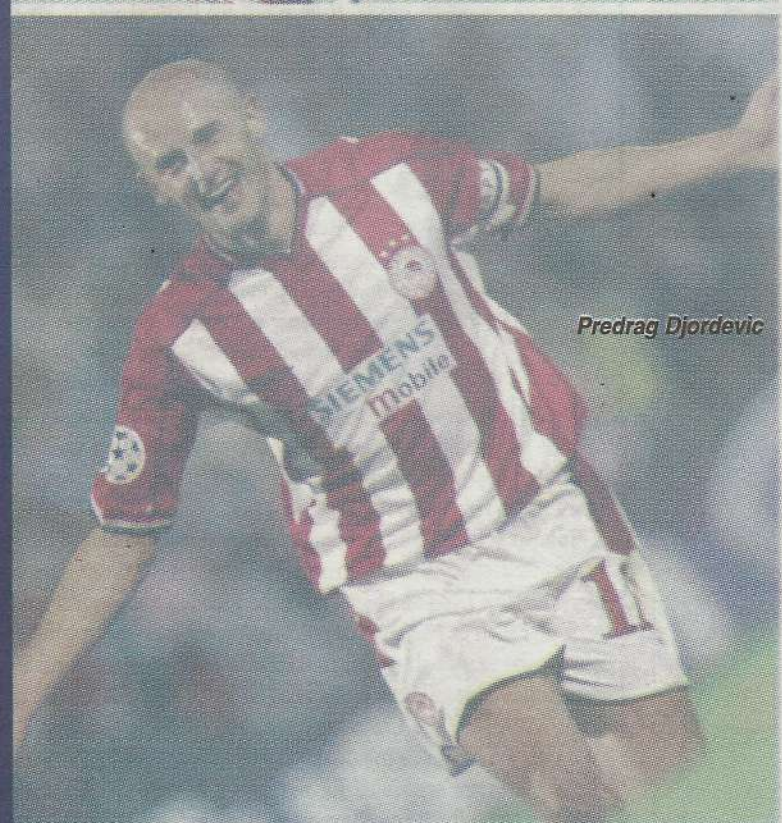
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Hernan Crespo



Francesco Totti



Predrag Djordjevic



Michael Owen

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